

BATMAN

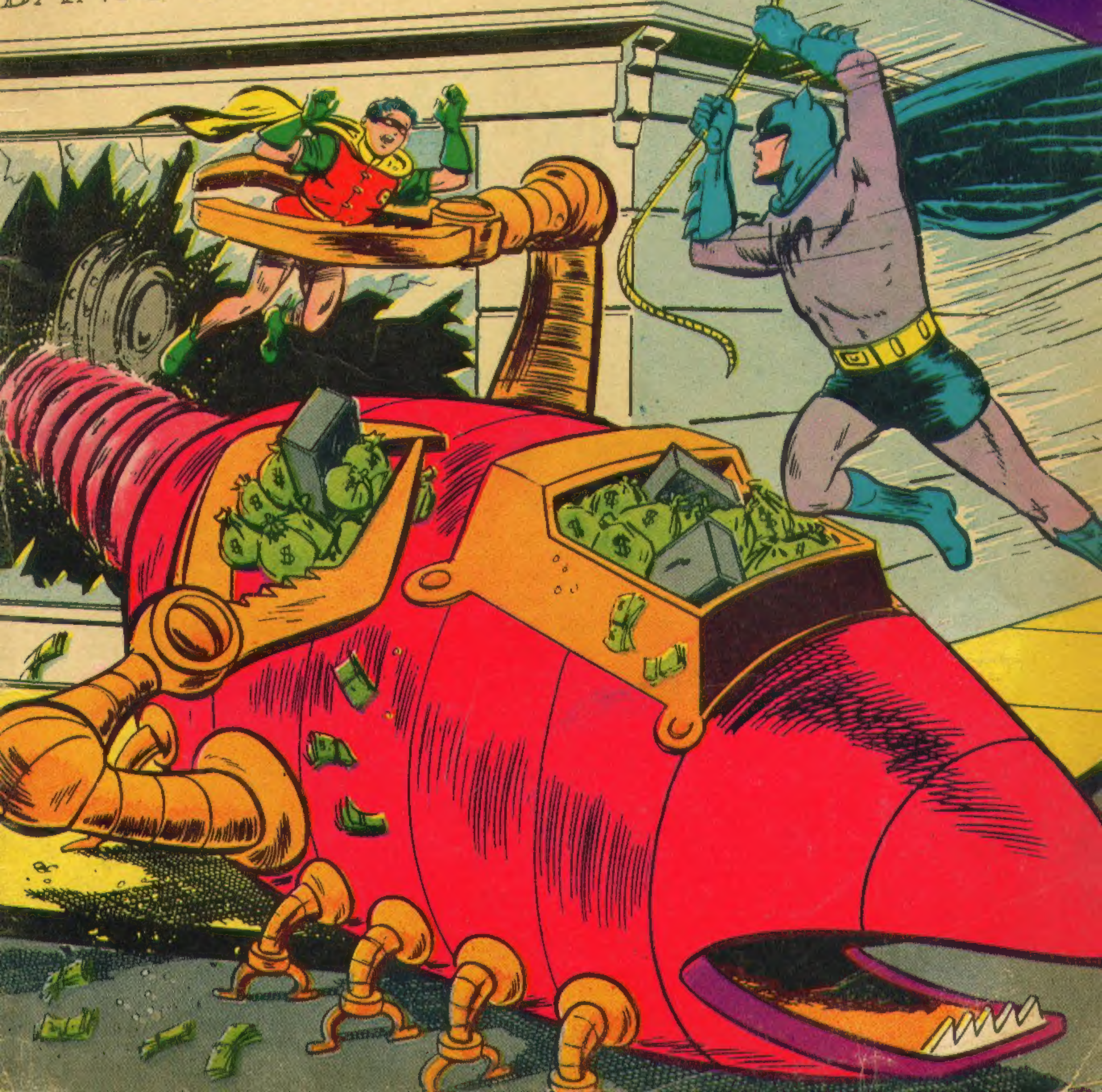
DEC - JAN
NO. 80
10c



BATMAN

Featuring
**"MACHINES
of
MENACE!"**

BANK OF GOTHAM





Draw Me!

Try for a **FREE ART SCHOLARSHIP!**

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Please enter my attached drawing
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in your contest. **(PLEASE PRINT)**

Name _____ Age _____

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BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER



LEAVE IT TO THE JOKER, THAT SATANISH JESTER OF CRIME, TO DREAM UP ANOTHER FIENDISH SCHEME CALCULATED TO SMASH THE CRIME-FIGHTING CAREERS OF THE GREAT BATMAN AND ROBIN! WITH A MOVIE CAMERA AS HIS ALLY... AND AN AUDACITY NEVER EQUALED EVEN BY THIS ARCH-VILLAIN OF THE UNDERWORLD, THE JOKER SEEKS TO DESTROY THE DYNAMIC DUO! SO---LIGHTS!... CAMERA!... ACTION! HERE COME... THE "JOKER'S MOVIE CRIMES!"

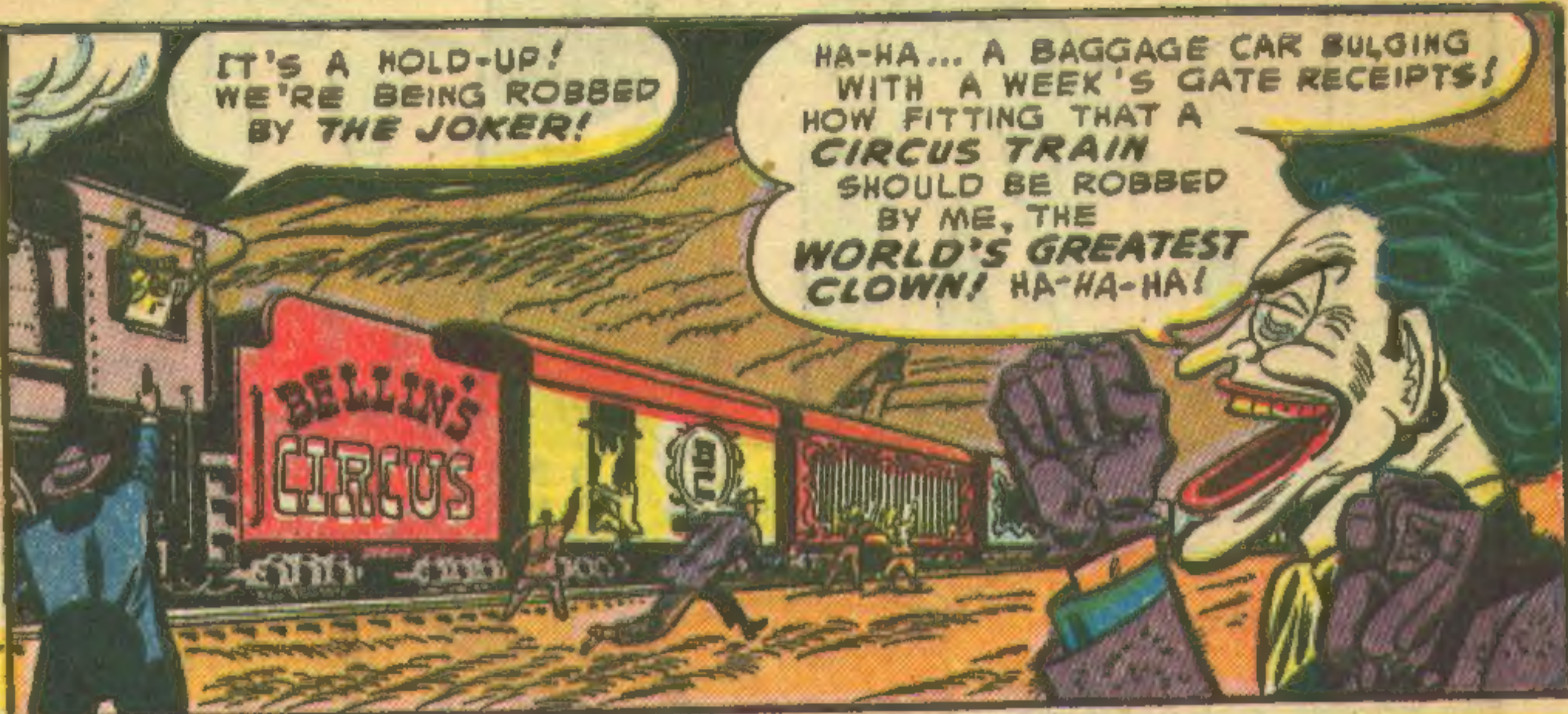


BATMAN, No. 80, Dec., '53-Jan., '54. Published bi-monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. Reentered as second class matter Aug. 1, 1941 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. 75c including postage. Foreign, \$1.50 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205

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Printed in U.S.A.

ONE DAY, ON A LONELY STRETCH OF RAILROAD TRACK NEAR GOTHAM CITY, THE JOKER, INFAMOUS CLOWN OF CRIME, MAKES AN UNSCHEDULED APPEARANCE...



IT'S A HOLD-UP!
WE'RE BEING ROBBED
BY THE JOKER!

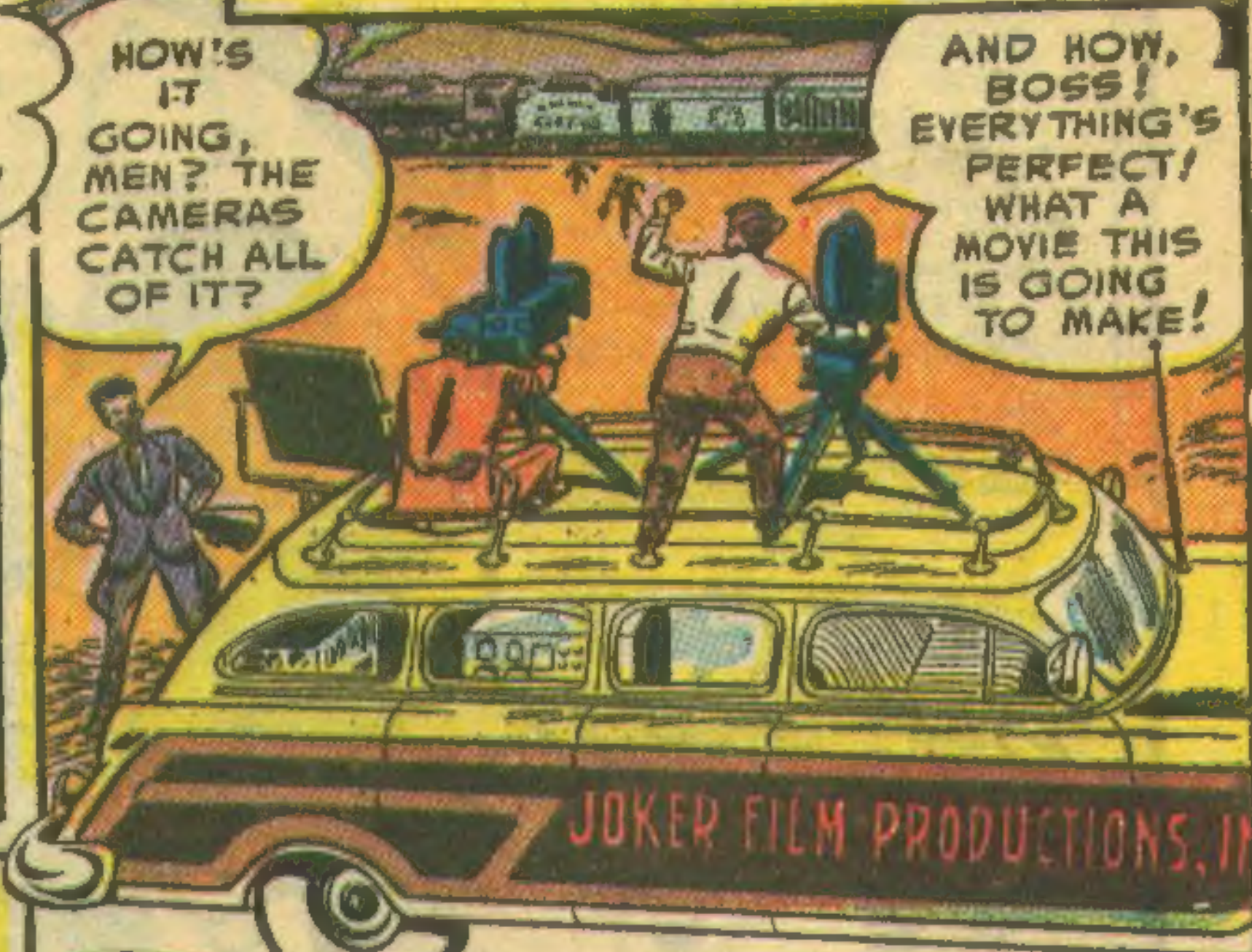
HA-HA... A BAGGAGE CAR BULGING
WITH A WEEK'S GATE RECEIPTS!
HOW FITTING THAT A
CIRCUS TRAIN
SHOULD BE ROBBED
BY ME, THE
**WORLD'S GREATEST
CLOWN!** HA-HA-HA!



YOU CALL YOURSELVES
CLOWNS, EH? HA-HA...
WHAT POOR
IMITATIONS...
AND SOON
TO BE MUCH
POORER!
HA, HA, HA...
HO-HO-HO-HO!

HOW'S
IT
GOING,
MEN? THE
CAMERAS
CATCH ALL
OF IT?

YES... ALL THE EARMARKS OF A
TYPICAL JOKER CRIME! BUT WAIT...
SOMETHING NEW HAS BEEN ADDED
THIS TIME...



AND HOW,
BOSS!
EVERYTHING'S
PERFECT!
WHAT A
MOVIE THIS
IS GOING
TO MAKE!

MOVIES? JOKER FILM PRODUCTIONS
INC.? WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
FOR THE ANSWER, LET'S EAVESDROP
ON THE CUNNING CLOWN AS HE AND HIS
MEN RACE TOWARD THEIR HIDEOUT...

SAY, BOSS... YOU APPOINTED
ME PUBLICITY DIRECTOR OF
JOKER FILM PRODUCTIONS
BUT YOU NEVER GAVE ME
THE WHOLE
PITCH!
HOW KIN I
GET YOU
PUBLICITY
IF I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
WHAT'S GOIN'
ON?

HA, HA...
FOLEY... YOU'RE
RIGHT! I'D
BETTER
BRING YOU
UP TO DATE!

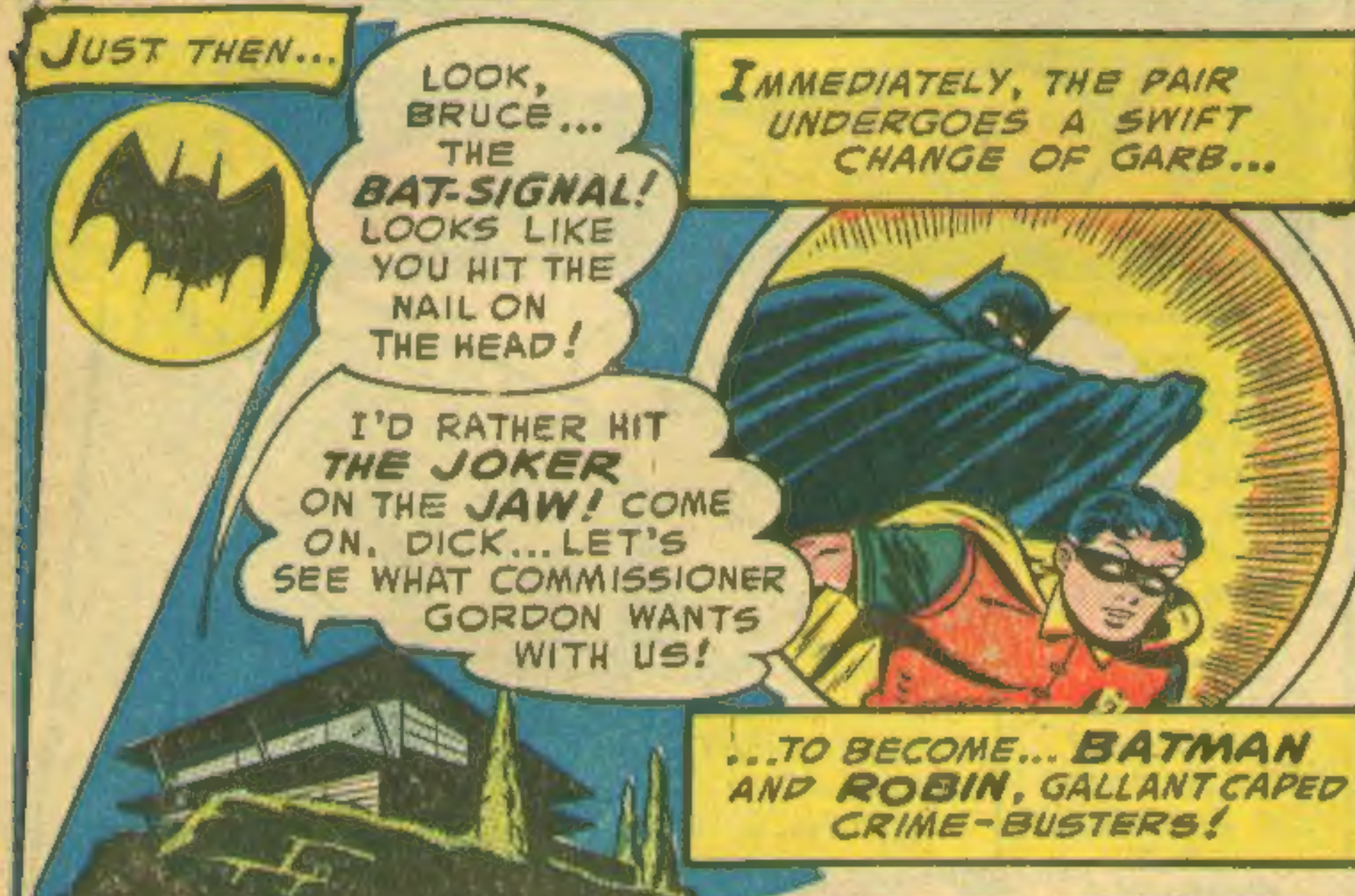
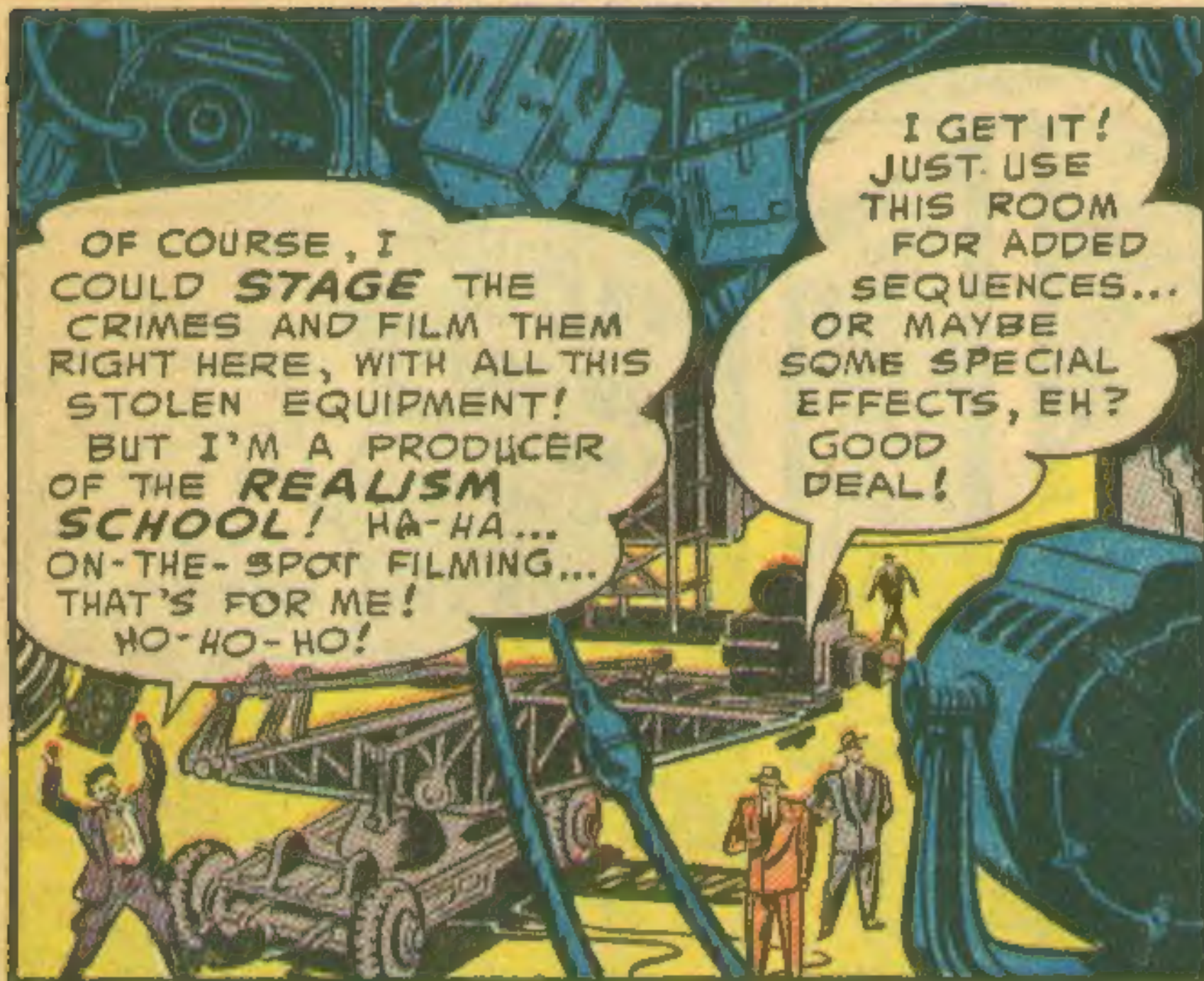
YOU
SEE,
FOLEY, I'VE
TURNED MOVIE
PRODUCER MAKING
EDUCATIONAL FILMS
FOR CRIMINALS!
HA-HA... GET IT? I
ENGINEER A CRIME,
AND RECORD IT ON
FILM! THE MOVIE
SHOWS CRIMINALS
HOW TO OPERATE!
FOR THIS, THEY'LL PAY
ME PLENTY! HA-HA-HA!

AND WHEN THE CRIMINALS
ARRIVE AT THEIR "STUDIO",
A HIDEOUT ON THE BANKS OF
GOTHAM RIVER...

TODAY WE MADE
A TWO-REELER
CALLED "HOW TO
ROB A TRAIN!"
WHEN WE'VE
FINISHED WITH
THE PROCESSING,
IT WILL BE READY
FOR GANGS
ACROSS THE
COUNTRY!
HA-HA-HA!

BOY...
THE
JOKER'S
SURE
KILLIN' TWO
BIRDS WITH
ONE STONE!
HE GETS THE
LOOT FROM
A CRIME,
THEN MAKES
MORE DOUGH
SELLIN' MOVIES
OF IT!





AND WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE...

NO TRACE OF THE JOKER OUTSIDE, BATMAN! HE MUST HAVE MOVED FAST!

WELL, WE'D BETTER START MOVING FASTER! ONLY THING WE CAN DO NOW IS TO GET THESE FELLOWS DOWN TO HEADQUARTERS AND SEE WHAT STORY THEY HAVE TO TELL!



THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT...

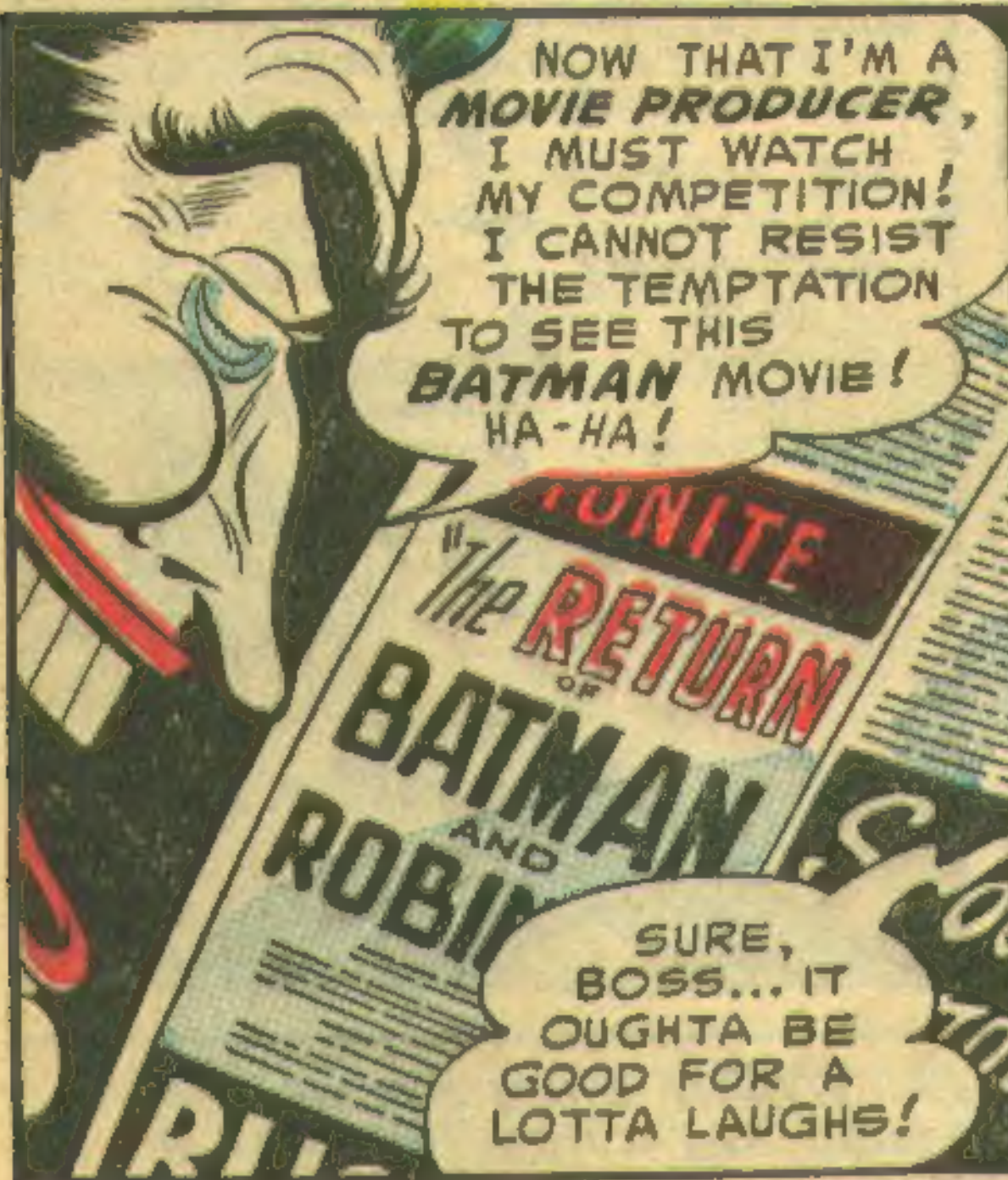
JOKER PRODUCTIONS
Presents
"THE RETURN OF BATMAN AND ROBIN"

HEY, BOSS... THAT MUSEUM STUFF WE SHOT TODAY LOOKS REAL GOOD!



JOKER FILM PRODUCTIONS
Presents
HOW TO ROB A MUSEUM
Starring THE JOKER
FROM AN ORIGINAL IDEA BY THE JOKER

NATURALLY! BUT RIGHT NOW, I'M MORE INTERESTED IN SOMETHING I SEE IN THIS NEWSPAPER!



NOW THAT I'M A MOVIE PRODUCER, I MUST WATCH MY COMPETITION! I CANNOT RESIST THE TEMPTATION TO SEE THIS BATMAN MOVIE! HA-HA!

THE RETURN OF BATMAN AND ROBIN

SURE, BOSS... IT OUGHTA BE GOOD FOR A LOTTA LAUGHS!

SO THAT EVENING, CAREFULLY DISGUISED, THE CLOWN PRINCE OF CRIME AND A FEW SELECT HENCHMEN ATTEND "THE RETURN OF BATMAN AND ROBIN!"...

HA-HA! THERE'S ALWAYS FIREWORKS WHEN THE JOKER COMMITS A CRIME! HO-HO!

HEY, BOSS... THAT ACTOR LOOKS JUST LIKE YOU! TERRIFIC!



BUT IN THE NEXT MOMENT, THE JOKER'S PLEASURE IS QUICKLY SOURED...

HAW! LOOK AT BATMAN HANDLE THE JOKER HA-HA-HA... POOR JOKER! HE SURE IS ALL WET! HA-HA-HA!



THAT'S A FAKE! A LIE! MISREPRESENTATION! THEY CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS!

HA-HA! LOOK AT BATMAN CROWN THE JOKER WITH THAT GIANT ICE-CREAM CONE! SOME DUNCE CAP HE'S HANDED THE JOKER! HA-HA-HA!



BAH! I'VE SEEN ENOUGH! THEY'LL PAY FOR THIS!

RETURNING TO HIS HIDEOUT, THE WRATHFUL HARLEQUIN OF HATE PLOTS HIS REVENGE...

HOLLYWOOD HAS MADE ME THE FOOL... A DIM-WITTED SIMPLETON OUT-TRICKED AT EVERY TURN BY BATMAN! I'LL SHOW THOSE MOVIE-MAKERS... AND I'LL SHOW BATMAN, TOO!

HOW, BOSS? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

I'LL MAKE MY OWN MOVIE.. ONE THAT'LL SHOW ME IN MY TRUE LIGHT, AS THE MASTER OF BATMAN! HA-HA... I'LL CALL IT 'HOW TO HANDLE BATMAN AND ROBIN! EVERY CROOK IN THE LAND WILL WANT TO SEE IT!



MEANWHILE, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS..

HEY, JOKER... HOW ABOUT ME PLAYIN' THE BATMAN ROLE? I GOT HIS BUILD... AND I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE AN ACTOR!

HA-HA-HA! NO... I'VE ALREADY DECIDED ON THE CAST! BATMAN AND ROBIN WILL PLAY THEMSELVES IN THE MOVIE! HO-HO-HO! WAIT AND SEE!

CRISIS AFTER CRISIS! A MUTINY IN THE STATE PRISON... TRAFFIC JAMS SNARLING THE CITY.. GOTHAM RIVER CONTAMINATED BY SILVER SALTS. AND NOW, THE JOKER!

WE HEARD ONE OF THE JOKER'S MEN WE CAPTURED HAS TALKED! WHAT'S UP?



PLENTY! THE JOKER'S IN THE MOVIE BUSINESS! HE'S FILMING CRIMES TO SELL TO CROOKS! HE'S TEACHING THEM NEW TRICKS OF THE TRADE! THAT'S WHAT THOSE MOVIE CAMERAS WERE ALL ABOUT!

THIS IS SERIOUS, BATMAN... NOT ONLY COULD IT LEAD TO NEW CRIME WAVES ACROSS THE LAND, BUT IT CASTS DISCREDIT ON OUR OWN OPERATION! YOU'VE GOT TO FIND THE JOKER'S HIDEOUT.. THAT'S THE ONE THING THE PRISONERS REFUSED TO REVEAL!

RIGHT, COMMISSIONER!



A FEW DAYS LATER, AS ANOTHER CRIME ALERTS THE DUO INTO ACTION...

THE POLICE RADIO SAYS IT'S **THE JOKER** AGAIN --- LOOTING **GREY'S DEPARTMENT STORE!**

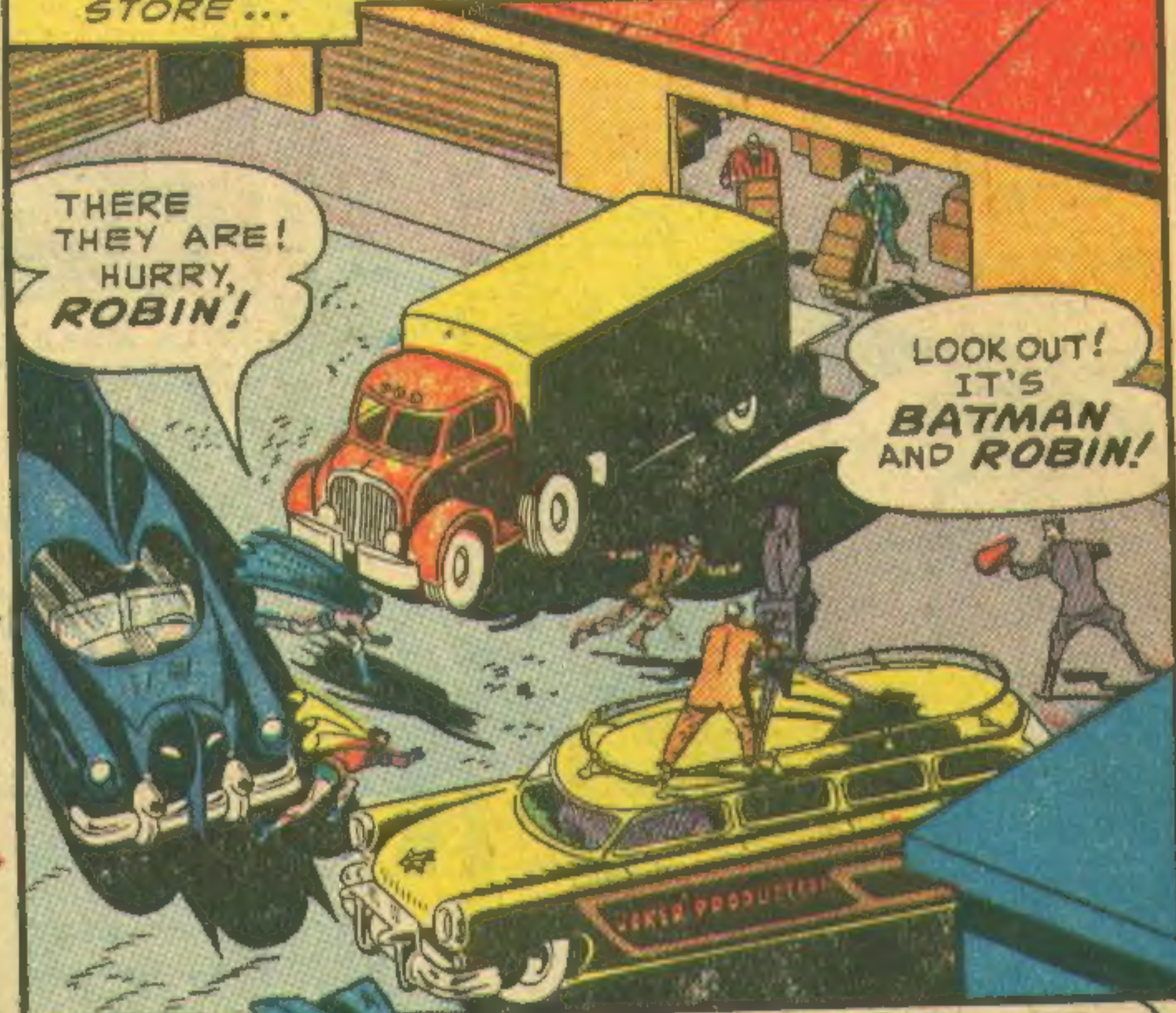
HANG ON! WE'LL BE THERE IN A MINUTE!



AND AS THE **BATMOBILE** SKIDS TO A STOP IN A PARKING AREA BEHIND THE GIANT DEPARTMENT STORE...

THERE THEY ARE! HURRY, **ROBIN!**

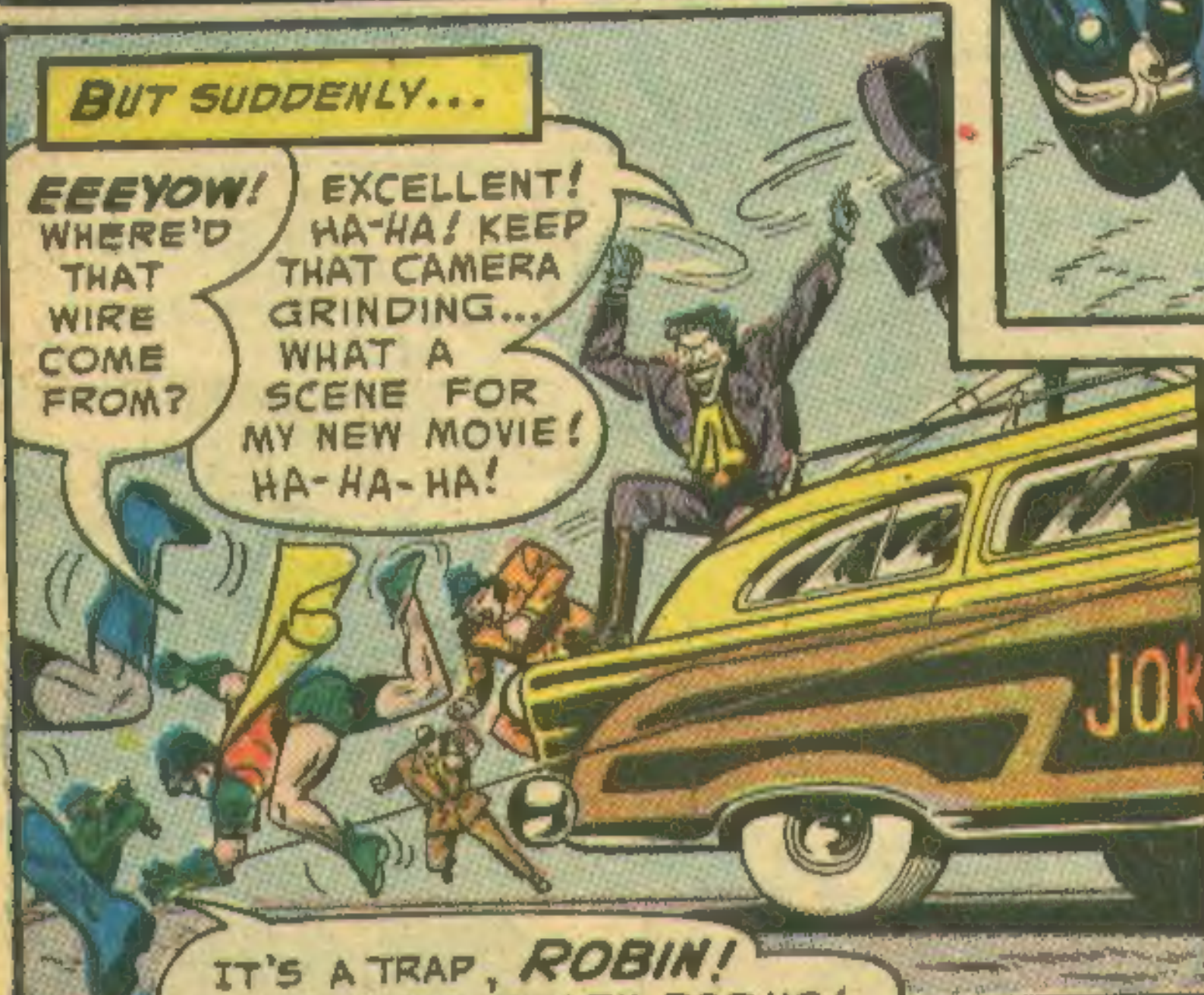
LOOK OUT! IT'S **BATMAN AND ROBIN!**



BUT SUDDENLY...

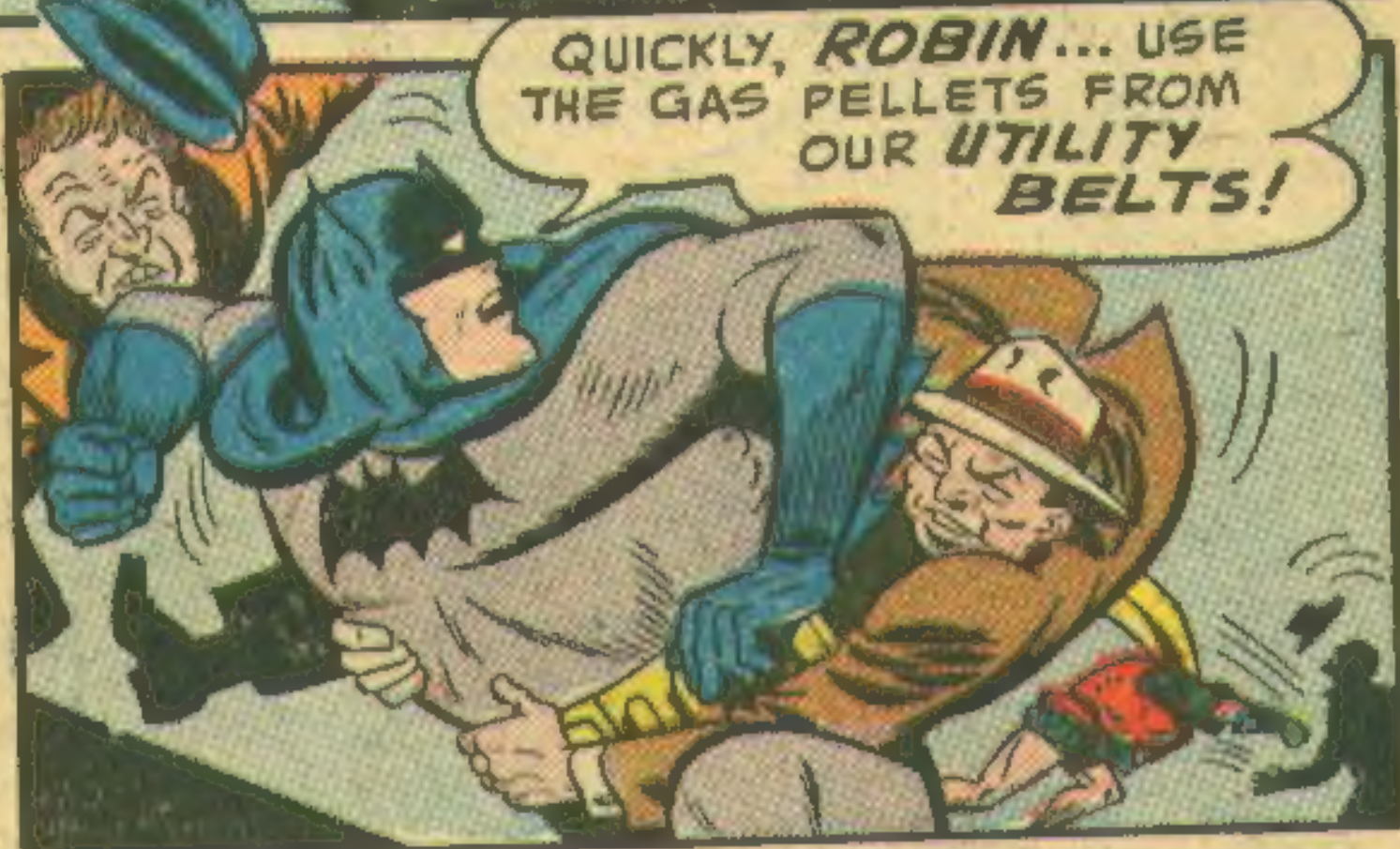
EEEEYOW! WHERE'D THAT WIRE COME FROM?

EXCELLENT! HA-HA! KEEP THAT CAMERA GRINDING... WHAT A SCENE FOR MY NEW MOVIE! HA-HA-HA!



IT'S A TRAP, **ROBIN!** THEY WERE READY FOR US!

QUICKLY, **ROBIN...** USE THE GAS PELLETS FROM OUR **UTILITY BELTS!**

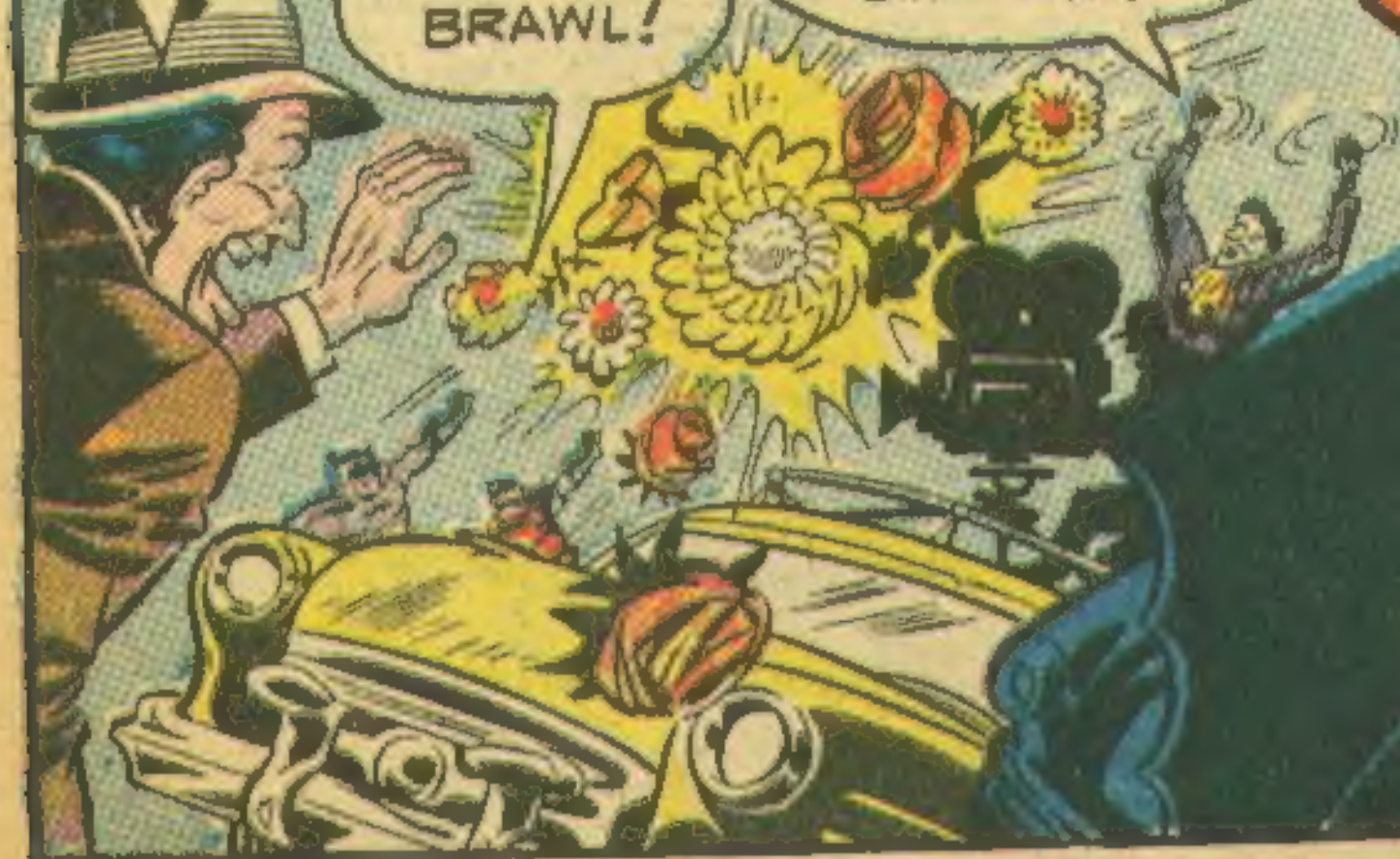


BUT AS **BATMAN AND ROBIN** HURL THEIR EXPLOSIVE GAS PELLETS AT THE **JOKER'S** MEN...

FLOWERS! GOSH, **BATMAN...** I DIDN'T THINK YOU CARED!

A TRICK! THEY MUST HAVE SWITCHED **UTILITY BELTS** IN THE BRAWL!

PERFECT! JUST AS I HOPED! THEY USED MY PHONY GAS PELLETS... HA-HA-HA! AND I'VE CAUGHT THE WHOLE AFFAIR ON FILM!



THE **CRIME CLOWN** AND HIS MEN QUICKLY CLAMBER ABOARD THEIR STATION WAGON AND ROAR OFF, BUT AS **BATMAN AND ROBIN** PREPARE TO GIVE CHASE IN THE **BATMOBILE...**

HO-HO-HO-HO! ONE OF THE OLDEST GAGS IN THE WORLD... A **BOMB** ATTACHED TO THE CAR'S STARTER! HA-HA... A PERFECT ENDING TO THE FIRST SCENE!



THEY BOOBY-TRAPPED THE **BATMOBILE** WHILE WE WERE FIGHTING! NOT ONLY THE BOMB... THEY'VE DRAINED ALL THE GAS!

SO THE FOLLOWING DAY...

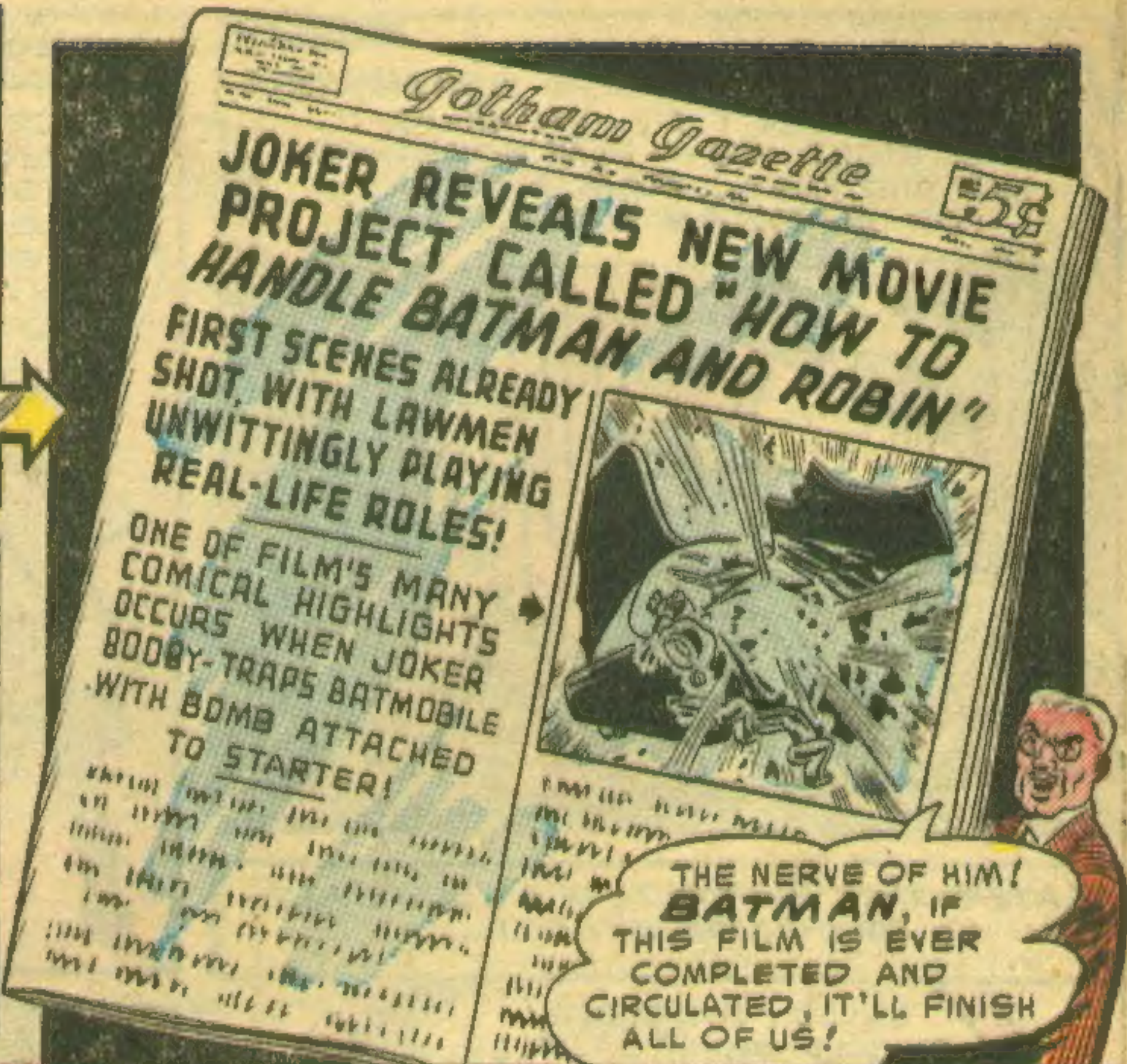
IT'S OBVIOUS WHAT **THE JOKER'S** NEW SCHEME IS... A FILM FOR THE UNDERWORLD, DESIGNED TO SHOW US OFF AT OUR WORST!

BATMAN! HAVE A LOOK AT THIS! IT'S APPALLING!



WELL ANYWAY, NOW THAT YOU KNOW HIS SCHEME, YOU SHOULD HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE THWARTING IT, AND CAPTURING **THE JOKER!** HE CAUGHT YOU BY SURPRISE ONCE... BUT HE'LL NEVER DO IT AGAIN!

DON'T WORRY, COMMISSIONER... WE'LL SPOIL **THE JOKER'S** FUN!



A FEW NIGHTS LATER, AT A SWANK GOTHAM CITY PARTY...

EEK!

HELP!

THE JOKER!

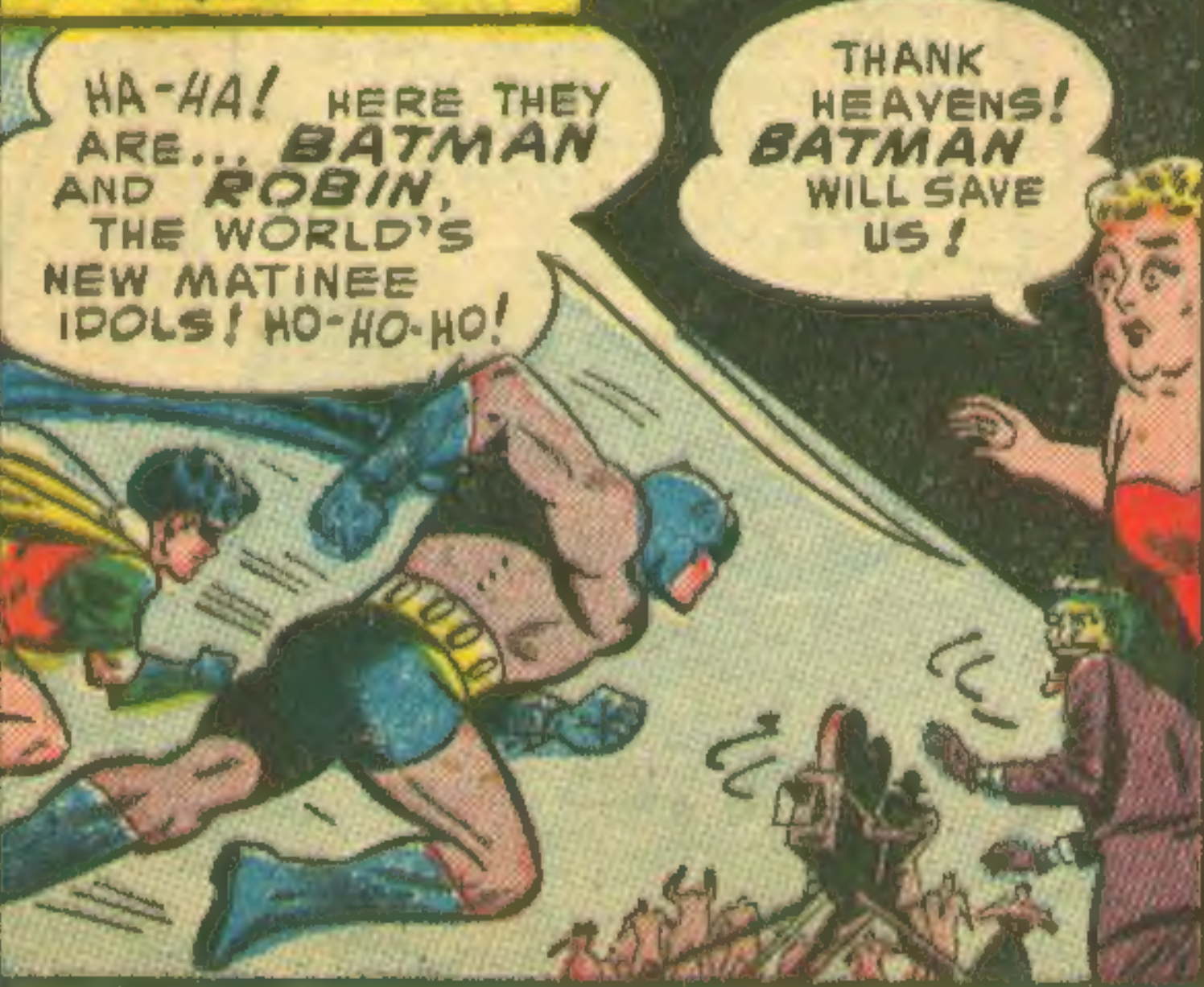
HA-HA... DON'T ANYONE MOVE! FIRST I WANT YOUR VALUABLES... THEN I'M GOING TO HIRE YOU AS **EXTRAS** FOR MY NEW MOVIE... THAT IS, IF MY TWO **STARS** DON'T DISAPPOINT ME! HO-HO!



AND MINUTES AFTER WORD OF **THE JOKER'S** RAID HAS REACHED HEADQUARTERS...

HA-HA! HERE THEY ARE... **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**, THE WORLD'S NEW MATINEE IDOLS! HO-HO-HO!

THANK HEAVENS! **BATMAN** WILL SAVE US!

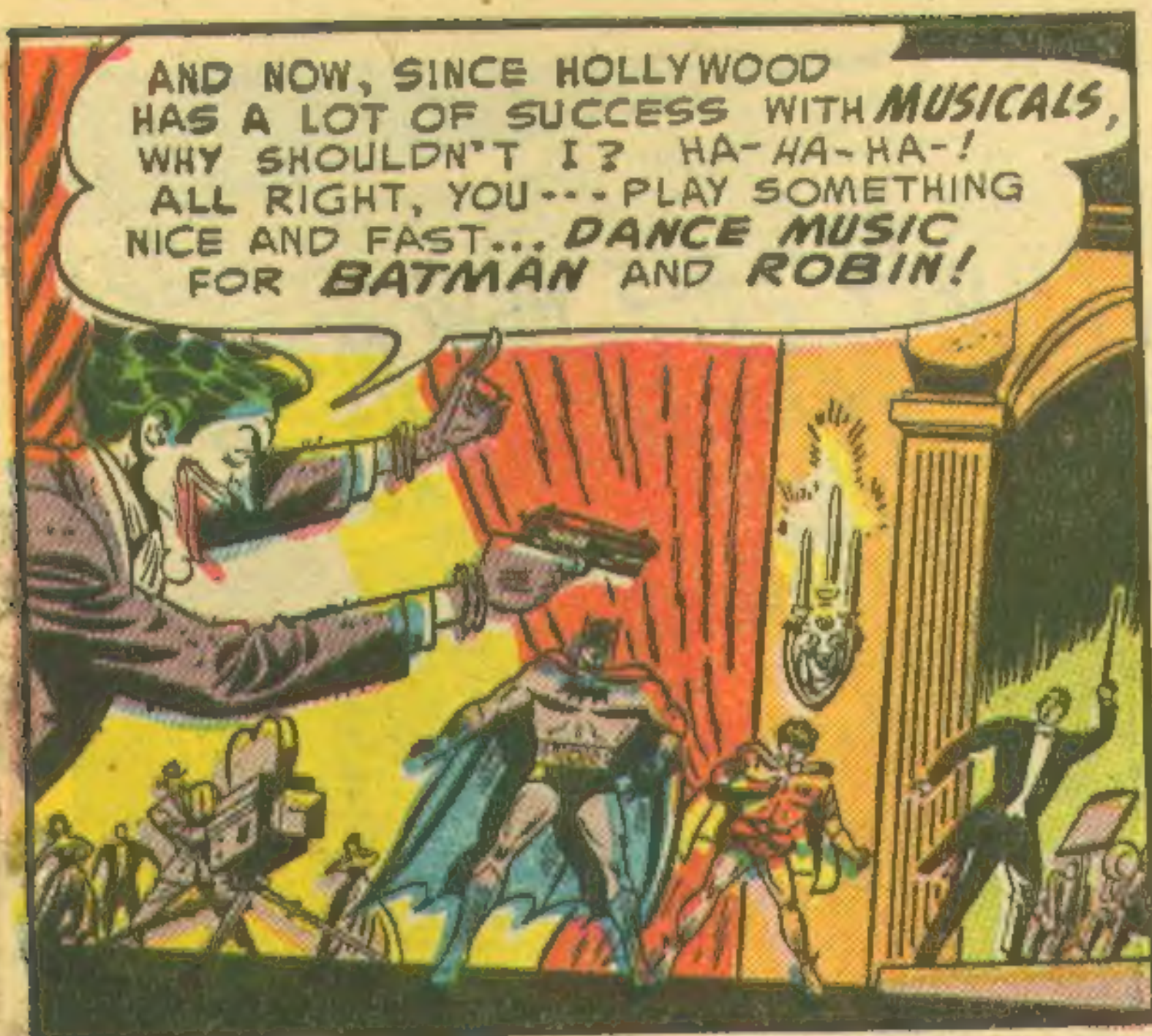


BUT INSTANTLY, THE WILY **JOKER** DARTS BEHIND THE HOSTESS OF THE PARTY, AND...

STOP, **BATMAN**... OR INNOCENT PEOPLE WILL DIE!

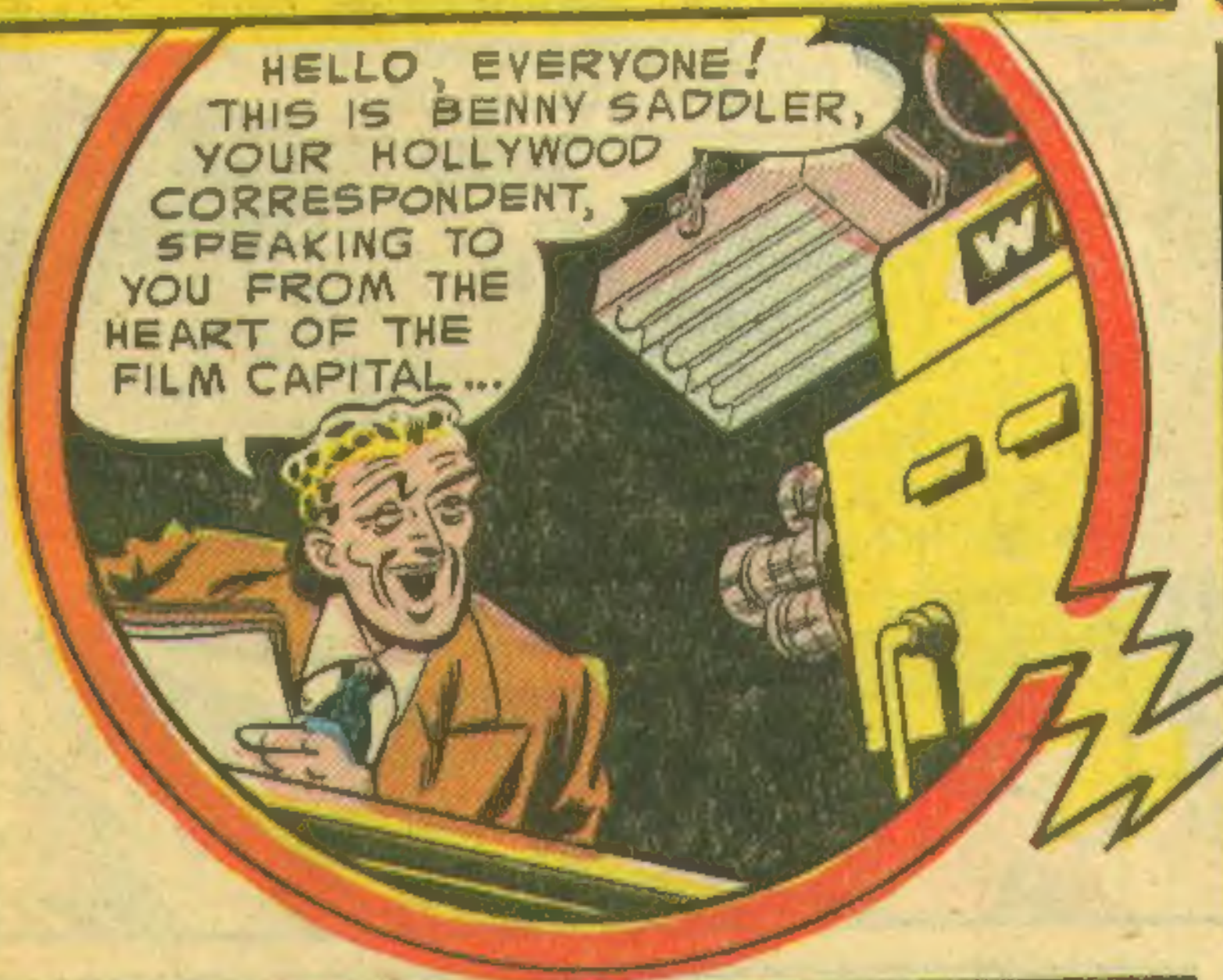
NO CHOICE, **ROBIN**... WE CAN'T TAKE A CHANCE! BETTER DO AS HE SAYS!





AND NOW, SINCE HOLLYWOOD HAS A LOT OF SUCCESS WITH **MUSICALS**, WHY SHOULDN'T I? HA-HA-HA-! ALL RIGHT, YOU---PLAY SOMETHING NICE AND FAST... **DANCE MUSIC** FOR **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN**!

LATER THAT EVENING, IN A HOLLYWOOD TELEVISION STUDIO...



HELLO, EVERYONE! THIS IS BENNY SADDLER, YOUR HOLLYWOOD CORRESPONDENT, SPEAKING TO YOU FROM THE HEART OF THE FILM CAPITAL...

AND AS THE BAND STARTS PLAYING...



DANCE, **BATMAN**... DANCE! HO-HO-HO-HO! WAIT TILL THE BOYS IN KANSAS CITY SEE **THIS**! COME ON... KEEP GOING! HO-HO!

GOLLY... HOW 'LL WE EVER LIVE **THIS** DOWN!

AND AS TWO FORLORN FIGURES IN THE **BAT-CAVE** WATCH AND LISTEN...



... THE SHOCKING NEWS FROM GOTHAM CITY CONTINUES! **THE JOKER** GOES RIGHT ON FILMING ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS MOVIES EVER MADE, AND **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE APPARENTLY HELPLESS TO STOP IT!



... A FLASH JUST RECEIVED FROM **THE JOKER'S** ENERGETIC PUBLICITY DEPARTMENT REVEALS THAT NOW **BATMAN DANCES** TO **THE JOKER'S** TUNE!

LISTENING TO THAT DOESN'T HELP! I'M GOING OUT FOR A WHILE, **ROBIN**!



I'VE NEVER SEEN **BATMAN** SO DESPONDENT! TWO NIGHTS IN A ROW, HE'S GONE OFF TO BROOD! WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT **THE JOKER** PRETTY SOON!



BATMAN



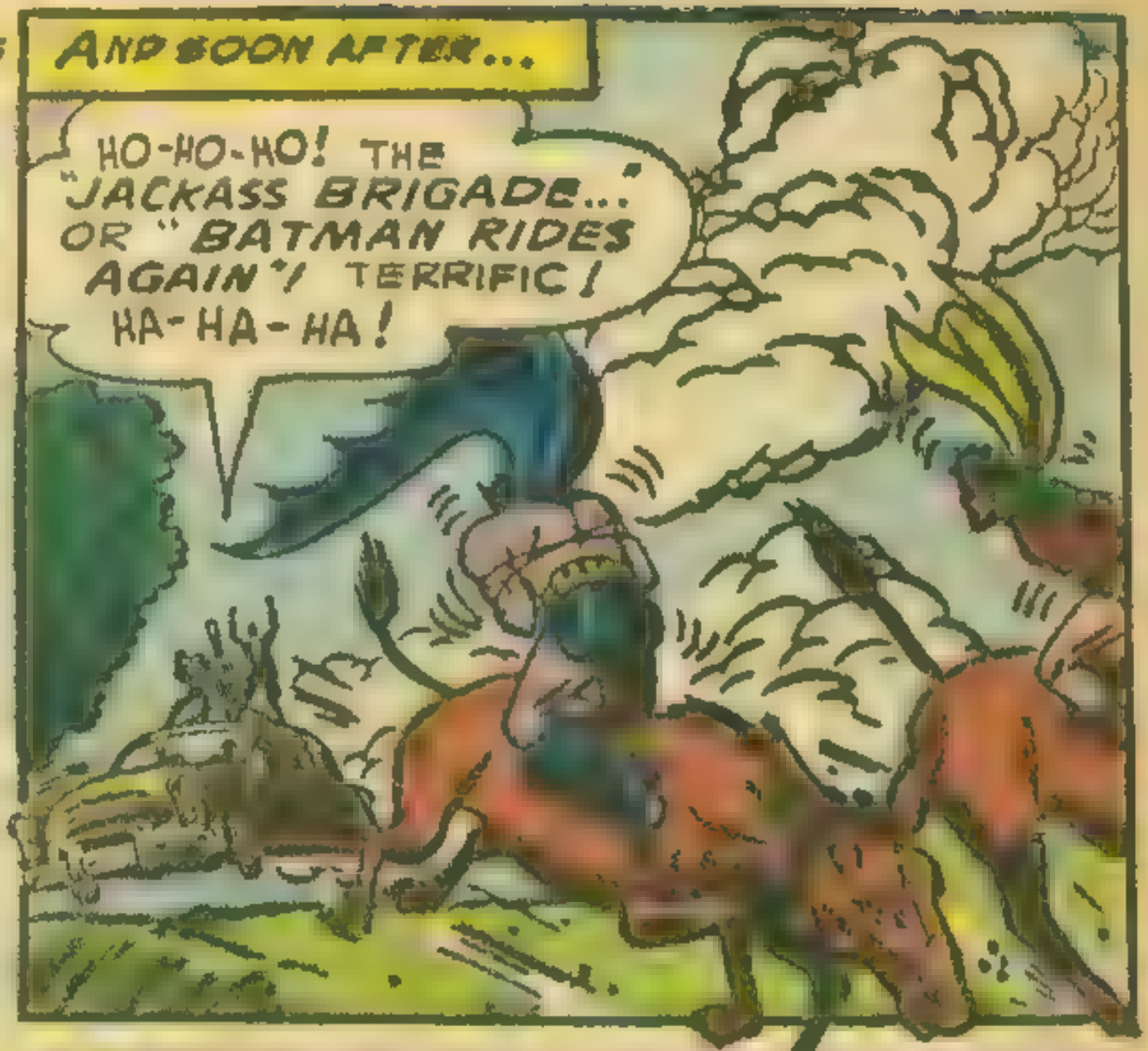
BUT NEXT DAY, THE JOKER AGAIN CAPTURES BATMAN AND ROBIN NAPPING...



JUST LIKE YOU SAID, BOSS! THEY PICKED UP THE TRAIL AND IT BROUGHT 'EM RIGHT HERE!

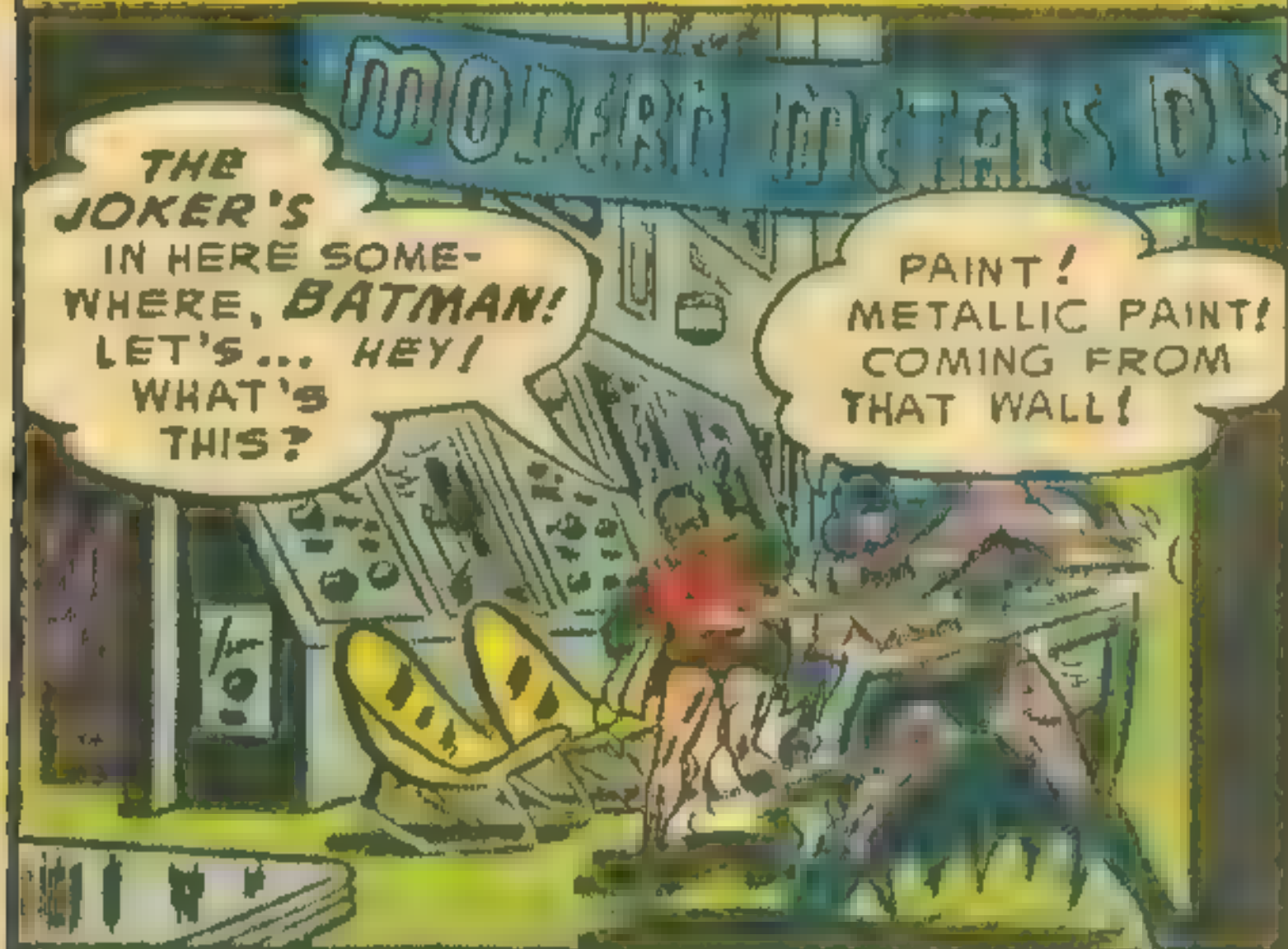
HA-HA... IT'S GOOD THEY DID! I'VE GOT A GREAT WESTERN SCENE IN MIND FOR MY MOVIE! WESTERNS ARE SO POPULAR, YOU KNOW! HO-HO!

AND SOON AFTER...



HO-HO-HO! THE "JACKASS BRIGADE..." OR "BATMAN RIDES AGAIN"! TERRIFIC! HA-HA-HA!

THEN, THAT EVENING... THE LAWMEN ONCE AGAIN LOCK HORNS WITH THEIR FIENDISH ADVERSARY...



THE JOKER'S IN HERE SOMEWHERE, BATMAN! LET'S... HEY! WHAT'S THIS?

PAINT! METALLIC PAINT! COMING FROM THAT WALL!

NEXT, A POWERFUL FORCE CATAPULTS THE DUO INTO NEARBY METALLIC CHAIRS, WHERE THEY ARE HELPLESS TO MOVE!



POWERFUL ELECTRO-MAGNETS, HIDDEN IN THAT CHAIR HOLD YOU PRISONER... NOW THAT YOU'RE COVERED WITH METALLIC PAINT!

PROP MAN! COVER BATMAN'S FACE WITH HONEY! WE'RE READY FOR THE LOVE SCENE! HO-HO... WHAT WOULD ANY MOVIE BE WITHOUT A LOVE SCENE? HO-HO!

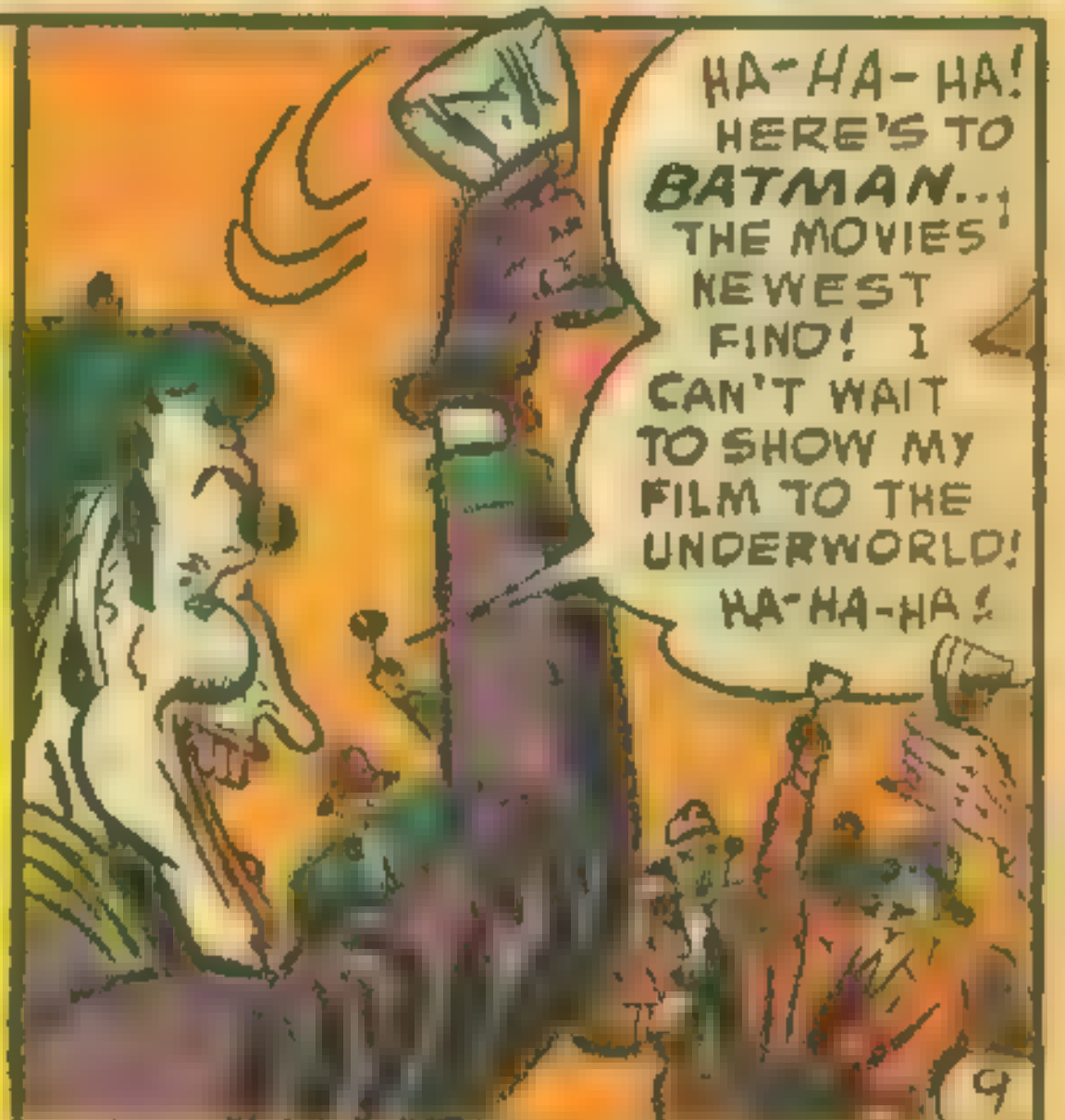
AND IN THE NEXT MOMENT...



THERE IT IS, BOSS... JUST LIKE YOU FIGURED IT! BATMAN'S GREAT LOVE SCENE... WITH A GOAT!

HO-HO-HO! BATMAN, YOU'LL BE WORLD-FAMOUS! MY SALES DEPARTMENT HAS FINISHED LINING UP MY BOOKINGS FOR MY MOVIE! AS SOON AS THIS FILM IS EDITED AND CUT, IT GOES OUT FOR ITS WORLD PREMIERE HA-HA-HA-HA!

THAT NIGHT, AS THE CRIME CLOWN AND HIS MEN CELEBRATE THE FINISHING OF THEIR MOVIE IN TYPICAL HOLLYWOOD STYLE...



HA-HA-HA! HERE'S TO BATMAN... THE MOVIE'S NEWEST FIND! I CAN'T WAIT TO SHOW MY FILM TO THE UNDERWORLD! HA-HA-HA!

BUT SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING...

ALL RIGHT, **JOKER**, YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN! NOW IT'S TIME FOR US TO HAVE OURS!

EH? BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND! YOU COULDN'T HAVE FOLLOWED ME! HOW DID YOU FIND MY HIDEOUT?



AND WITHIN MINUTES...

I FOUND YOUR HIDEOUT SOME TIME AGO... BUT THOUGHT IT WISER NOT TO CLOSE IN UNTIL YOU HAD COMPLETED YOUR LIST OF CUSTOMERS FOR YOUR MOVIE... A LIST THAT WILL NOW LEAD US TO EVERY IMPORTANT CROOK IN THE LAND!

YOU SEE, **BATMAN** REMEMBERED THAT **GOTHAM RIVER** WAS SUDDENLY CONTAMINATED BY **SILVER SALTS**, WHICH ARE USED IN GREAT QUANTITIES WHEN DEVELOPING FILM!



PLAYING A HUNCH, **BATMAN** TRACED THE CONTAMINATION TILL IT LED HIM WHERE YOU WERE DUMPING PLENTY OF IT IN THE RIVER EVERYDAY!

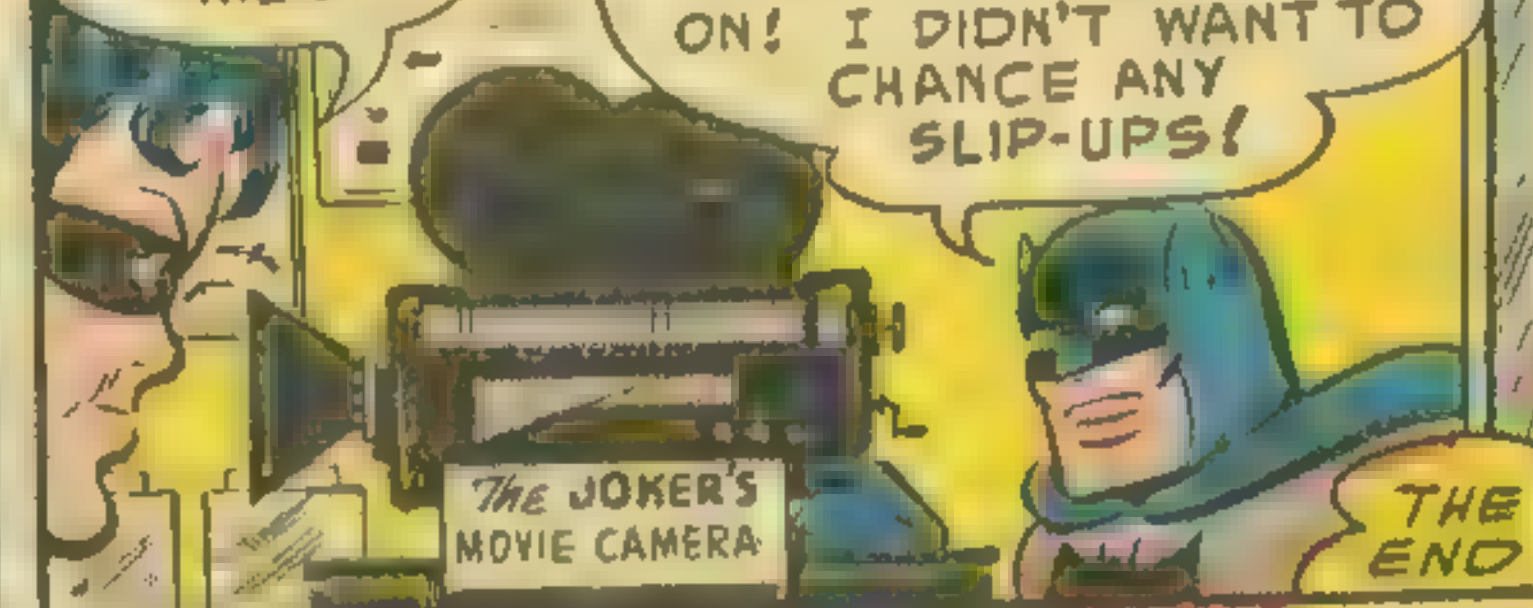
RIGHT! AND ONE MORE THING... I COULD HAVE AVOIDED YOUR BOOBY-TRAPS AT ANY TIME--- BUT IT WAS BETTER STRATEGY TO PLAY DUMB, TO LET YOU THINK YOUR FILM WAS COMING OFF, SO THAT YOU'D FINISH THAT LIST OF CRIMINALS FOR US!



AND SO, LATER IN THE BAT-CAVE'S HALL OF TROPHIES...

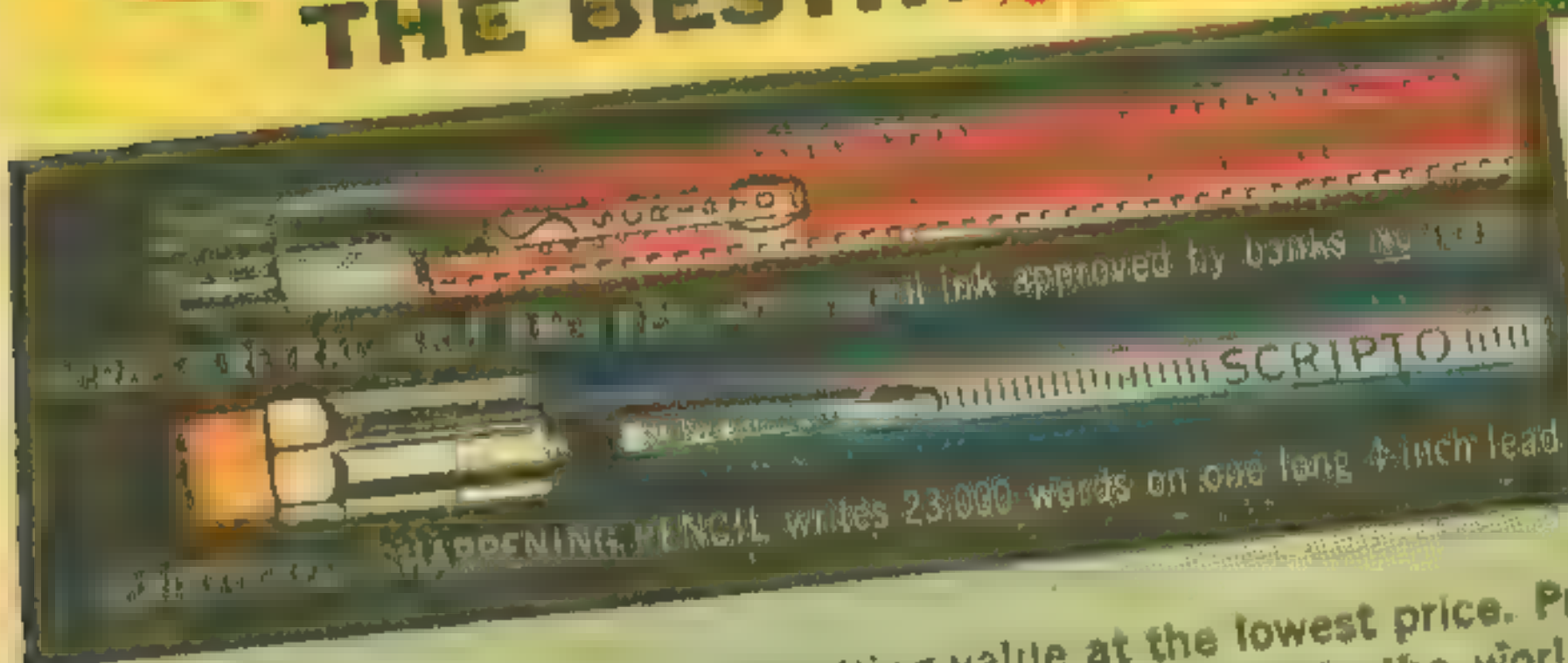
I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY YOU DIDN'T TELL COMMISSIONER GORDON OF YOUR PLAN, **BATMAN**... BUT WHY DID YOU KEEP IT FROM ME?

EXTRA CAUTION, THAT'S ALL! I FIGURED THAT IF YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING ON, YOU'D REACT PROPERLY TO **THE JOKER'S** SATISFACTION... AND THE FILM PROJECT WOULD GO ON! I DIDN'T WANT TO CHANCE ANY SLIP-UPS!



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QUICK QUIZ

IS WHALEBONE BONE ?



WHALEBONE IS NOT BONE AND HAS NONE OF THE PROPERTIES OF BONE ! IT IS AN INACCURATE NAME FOR AN ELASTIC, FIBROUS SUBSTANCE THAT GROWS ON THE ROOF OF THE MOUTH OF CERTAIN SPECIES OF WHALES !

ARE MONGREL DOGS HEALTHIER AND MORE INTELLIGENT THAN PUREBREDS ?



AS A GROUP, MONGRELS ARE AS HEALTHY, BUT NO HEALTHIER THAN THOROUGH-BREDS ! PUREBREDS ARE SMARTER AND EASIER TO TRAIN THAN MONGRELS !

WHERE WAS PAPER MONEY FIRST ISSUED ?



IN CHINA MORE THAN 1050 YEARS AGO ! PAPER MONEY OVERCAME THE DIFFICULTY OF CARRYING QUANTITIES OF IRON AND COPPER COINS !

ARE THERE SEASONS WHEN THE HAIR GROWS FASTER ?



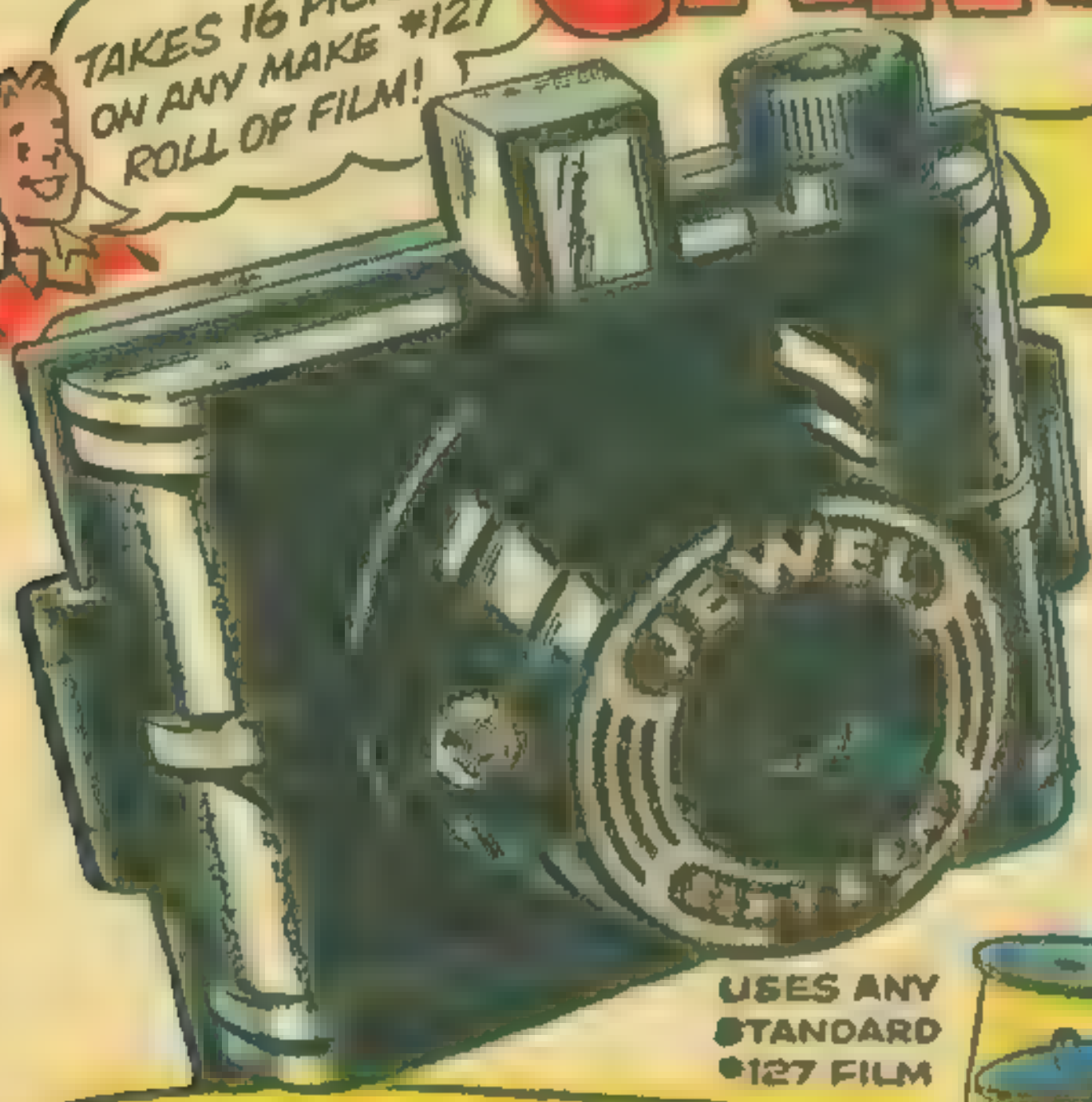
HAIR GROWS FASTER DURING THE SUMMER SEASON THAN IN WINTER AND FASTER BY DAY THAN BY NIGHT !

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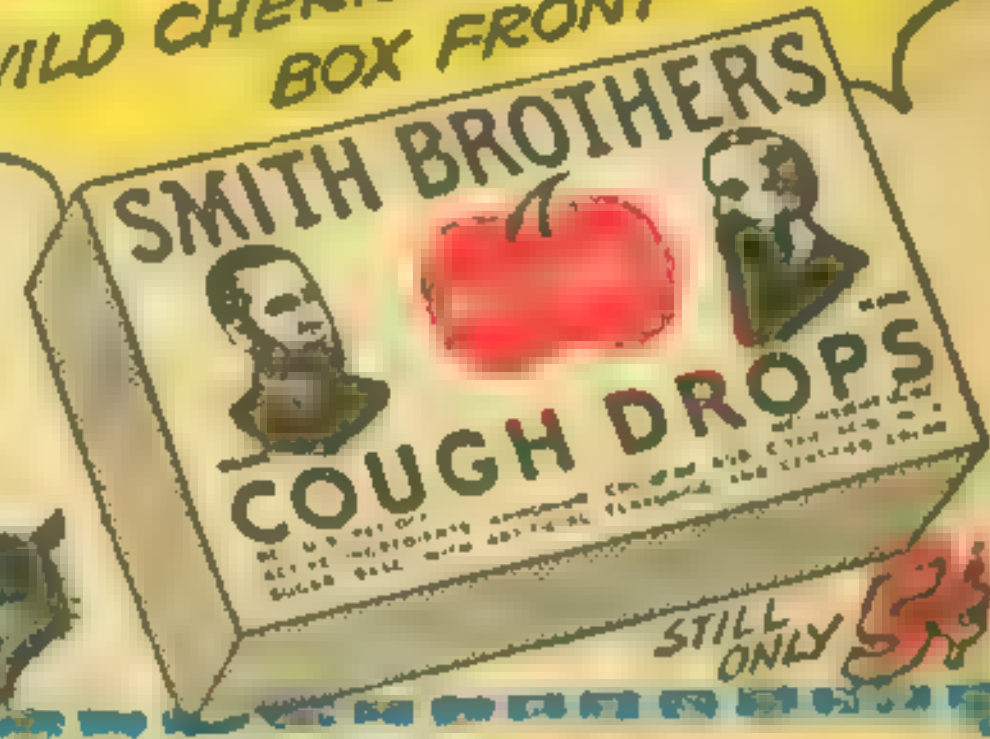
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NAME _____ (Please print in pencil)
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Binky

says:

"KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY!"

LOOK AT THESE HEADLINES: "JUVENILE DELINQUENCY ON RISE", "FIRE SWEEPS CONDEMNED BUILDING", "MANY HANDICAPPED PEOPLE NEED HELP". WHAT KIND OF A TOWN IS THIS, ANYWAY? FOR TWO CENTS, I'D JUST MOVE AWAY!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, JOE? YOU LOOK PRETTY BLUE!

AW, MY FATHER IS DISGUSTED WITH THIS TOWN WHEN HE SEES HEADLINES LIKE THESE. I DON'T WANT TO MOVE, BINKY-- I LIKE IT HERE!

HMMM... WHY DON'T WE FIND OUT WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT? MAYBE WE CAN GET OUR TEACHER TO ORGANIZE A CLASS GROUP...

THAT'S AN IDEA! THEN WE CAN TALK TO THE PEOPLE WHO REALLY KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!

AND SO...

YES, MORE BOYS AND GIRLS IN OUR TOWN, AS IN OTHER TOWNS, BROKE THE LAW LAST YEAR. WE'RE TRYING OUR BEST TO HELP GET THEM STRAIGHTENED OUT. YOU CAN HELP, TOO, BY OBEYING THE LAW YOURSELVES AND HELPING YOUR FRIENDS TO *THINK* BEFORE THEY *ACT*!

HERE IS WHERE THE NEW HOUSES ARE TO BE BUILT TO TAKE THE PLACE OF THE OLD ONES THAT WEREN'T SAFE TO LIVE IN. ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TOWNS LIKE OURS ARE WORKING TO SEE THAT PEOPLE HAVE BETTER PLACES TO LIVE IN!

EVERY TOWN HAS MORE HANDICAPPED PEOPLE NOW. WE MUST TRY TO PREVENT ACCIDENTS AND SEE THAT OUR CITIZENS KNOW HOW TO TAKE BETTER CARE OF THEIR HEALTH. WE'VE LICKED A LOT OF DISEASES THAT USED TO BE VERY DANGEROUS--AND WE CAN LICK THIS, TOO, IF EVERYBODY HELPS.

I'M GOING TO TELL MY DAD ABOUT ALL THE THINGS WE LEARNED, BINKY. WHEN HE KNOWS PEOPLE IN OUR TOWN ARE WORKING HARD TO MAKE THINGS BETTER, I THINK HE'LL WANT TO STAY HERE AND HELP!

I BET HE WILL, JOE. IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY SO YOU CAN LEARN WHAT IT *NEEDS* TO MAKE THINGS BETTER. THAT'S BEING A GOOD CITIZEN!



BATMAN



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

HELP, BATMAN!
HELP! I'M BEING
MURDERED!

HA-HA!
IT'S THAT CRAZY
DICK GRAYSON
AGAIN! HE'S
ALWAYS CRYING
"WOLF!"

IN GOTHAM CITY'S DEEPEST SHADOWS, A FANTASTIC CRIME GETS UNDER WAY! AND AWARE OF IT ALL, A SINGLE EYE-WITNESS--YOUNG DICK GRAYSON! BUT SO STRANGE IS HIS STORY, NO ONE BELIEVES IT--ESPECIALLY THE POLICE! AND THE STRANGER IT GETS, THE MORE PEOPLE LAUGH--UNTIL AT LAST DICK IS ALONE WITH HIS TERROR-- TO SHARE IT ONLY WITH HIS ALTER EGO, **ROBIN THE BOY WONDER**--IN THE THRILL-UPON-THRILL ADVENTURE CALLED--

**DICK GRAYSON'S
NIGHTMARE!**

ONE EVENING IN THE **BAT-CAVE**, SECRET LAIR OF THE FAMED CRIME-FIGHTERS, **BATMAN AND ROBIN...**

WELL, THOSE NEW JET ENGINES WE INSTALLED IN THE **BATPLANE** CERTAINLY PERFORMED NICELY. THE TEST RAN OFF WITH-OUT A HITCH...

YES. AND LET'S HOPE THAT MURDER TRIAL I HAVE TO ATTEND IN CHICAGO COMES OFF JUST AS SMOOTHLY. I'LL BE LEAVING TOMORROW!

REMOVING THEIR AWESOME GARB, THE LAW-MEN EMERGE IN THEIR PRIVATE-LIFE ROLES AS MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

DICK, THE HOUSE NEEDS REDECORATION BADLY. I THOUGHT I'D HAVE THE PAINTERS COME IN AND DO IT WHILE I'M AWAY...

BUT THAT WOULD TAKE ABOUT TWO WEEKS! AND I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO LIVE HERE, OR USE THIS ENTRANCE TO THE **BAT-CAVE**! HOW WOULD I OPERATE AS **ROBIN**?

I CAN ARRANGE EVERYTHING. MY FRIEND FREDDY HOBBS, THE MYSTERY WRITER, IS IN EUROPE ON VACATION. HE LEFT ME HIS KEYS--YOU CAN USE HIS COTTAGE FOR THE TIME BEING...

HMMM-- THAT'S NOT BAD. HOBBS' COTTAGE IS NEARBY-- WHEN I HAVE TO, I CAN USE THE EMERGENCY EXTERIOR ENTRANCE TO THE **BAT-CAVE**.

AND SO IT IS THAT, NEXT EVENING, DICK GRAYSON MOVES INTO NEW LODGINGS--THE UNUSUAL AND EERIE COTTAGE OF WRITER FREDDY HOBBS...

BATMAN'S IN CHICAGO-- AND LOOK WHERE HE SENT ME! IT'S ENOUGH TO GIVE A PERSON THE CREEPS!

HMMM! I GUESS HOBBS WANTED PLENTY OF PRIVACY WHEN HE TOOK THIS COTTAGE. NO NEIGHBORS, EXCEPT THAT GLOOMY-LOOKING OLD WAREHOUSE OVER THERE...

"... AND THEN A GHOSTLY HOWL SPLIT THE NIGHT--THE WEREWOLF WAS ON THE PROWL!" NOT EXACTLY A BED-TIME FAIRY TALE! BUT I MIGHT AS WELL GET USED TO THIS KIND OF LITERATURE--THERE'S NO OTHER TYPE AROUND!

NEXT DAY, AS DICK WALKS HOME FROM SCHOOL ...

DICK! DICK GRAYSON!
HURRY! YOU MUST
HELP ME! IT'S A
MATTER OF LIFE
OR DEATH!

ME ???
BUT THERE
MUST BE
SOME
MISTAKE ...

THIS IS NO
TIME FOR JOKES!
I'VE GOT THE
MONEY--YOU KNOW
WHAT TO DO WITH
IT! HURRY--BEFORE
SOMEONE SEES
US!

MONEY ???
BUT--WHAT
IS ALL THIS ??
I NEVER
SAW YOU
BEFORE IN
MY LIFE!

THEN, BEFORE THE BEWILDERED LAD CAN
GATHER HIS WITS, AN ENVELOPE IS THRUST
INTO HIS HANDS AND HIS WOMAN OF MYSTERY
SUDDENLY FLEES ...

HEY, WAIT! THIS
ENVELOPE--I DON'T
KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH
IT! COME BACK!

A MOMENT LATER...

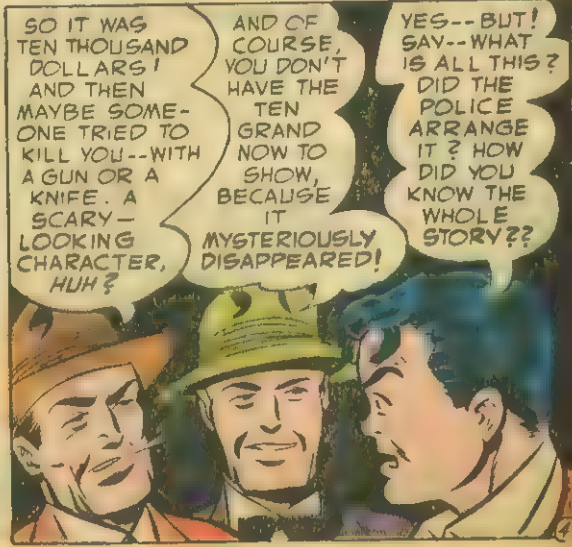
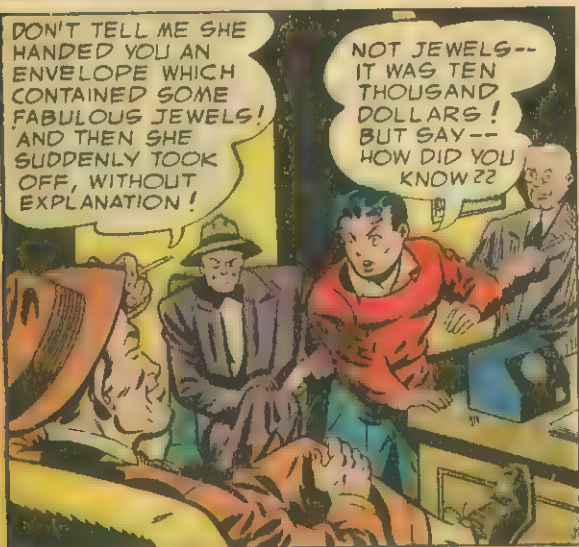
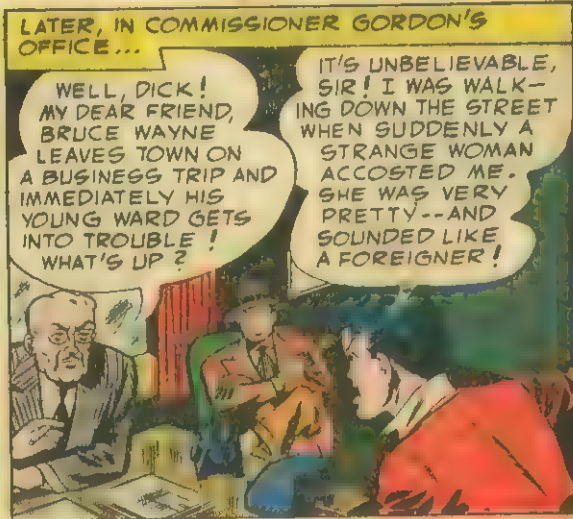
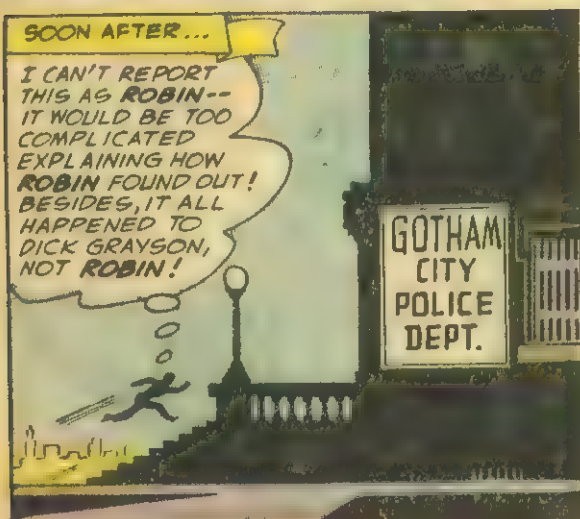
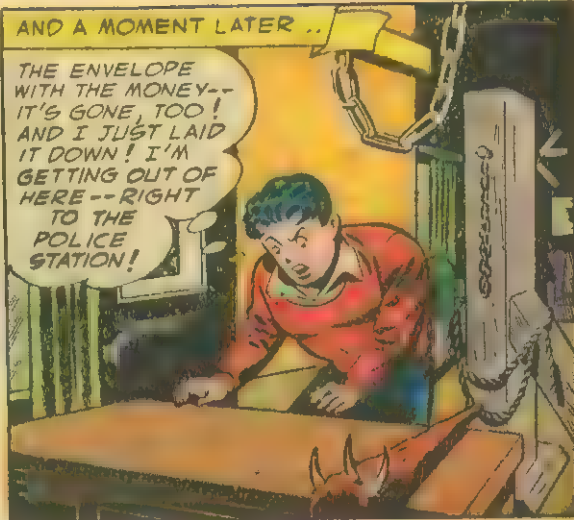
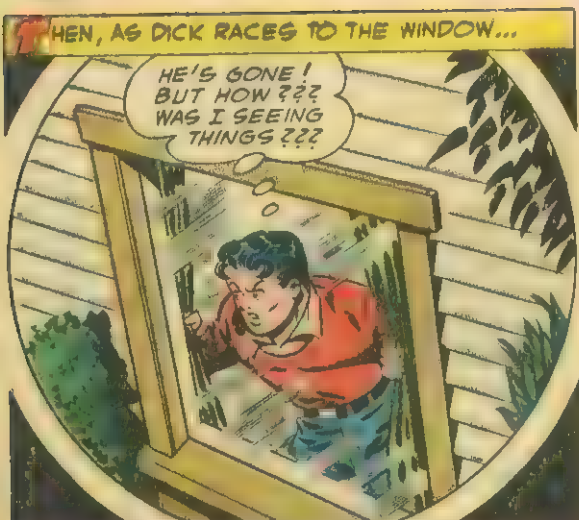
JEEPERS!
TEN THOUSAND
DOLLARS! I'D
BETTER GET OUT
OF HERE! BACK
TO THE COTTAGE--
TRY TO FIGURE
THIS OUT!

SUDDENLY...

WOW! THAT
DAGGER WAS TOO
CLOSE TO BE FUNNY!
I'VE GOTTEN MIXED
UP INTO SOMETHING
FOR SURE!

AND WHEN DICK FINALLY REACHES HIS
COTTAGE, BREATHLESS AND BADLY
SHAKEN ...

THAT
HORRIBLE
FACE! AM
I GOING
MAD??



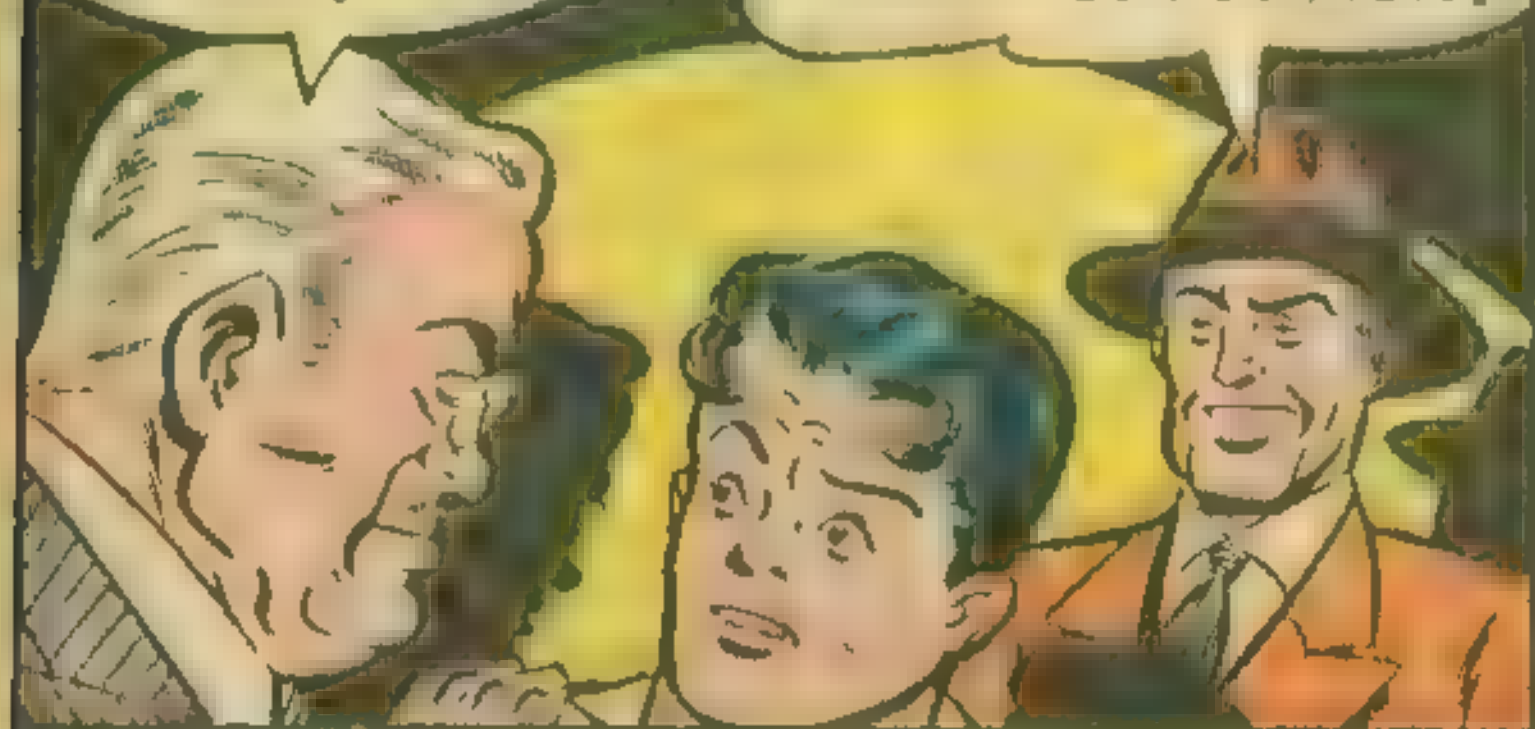


BATMAN



DICK-- I KNOW YOU'RE STAYING AT THE HOBBS COTTAGE. I'VE BEEN THERE-- I KNOW HOW **EERIE** IT IS! LIVING THERE--READING THOSE BOOKS-- CAN INFLUENCE YOU!

KID-STORIES LIKE YOURS ARE A DIME A DOZEN! TOO MUCH **IMAGINATION**, THAT'S ALL! NOW, YOU STOP READIN' THOSE BOOKS AND LOOKIN' FOR SPOOKS-- AND ALL OF US WILL FEEL A LOT BETTER!



BUT I KNOW IT HAPPENED--I **SAW** IT HAPPEN! YET, THEY'LL NEVER BELIEVE ME! THEY THINK I'M JUST A CRAZY KID! WHAT CAN I DO ???



THEN, AS DICK PREPARES TO LEAVE, HE REALIZES THERE IS ONLY ONE PLAN HE CAN FOLLOW...

YOU MAY NOT BELIEVE ME-- BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO WILL. **ROBIN** WILL! I'M GOING TO FIND **ROBIN**-- AND TELL HIM!

HA-HA! DON'T COUNT ON IT, KID! IF ANYONE WILL LAUGH IN YOUR FACE, **ROBIN** WILL!

COMMISSIONER GORDON



A MOMENT LATER, DICK LEAVES. BUT BEFORE HE CAN GET TOO FAR, THE **BAT-SIGNAL** FLASHES THROUGH THE SKY-- SUMMONING HIM BACK, AS **ROBIN**, THE BOY WONDER!

ROBIN-- THIS MAY BE A NEEDLESS PRECAUTION, BUT DICK GRAYSON IS LOOKING FOR YOU WITH SOME WILD, FANTASTIC STORY. PAY NO ATTENTION TO IT! I WANT YOU TO PROMISE ME YOU WON'T GET INVOLVED IN A WILD-GOOSE CHASE!

YES, COMMISSIONER..



LATER...

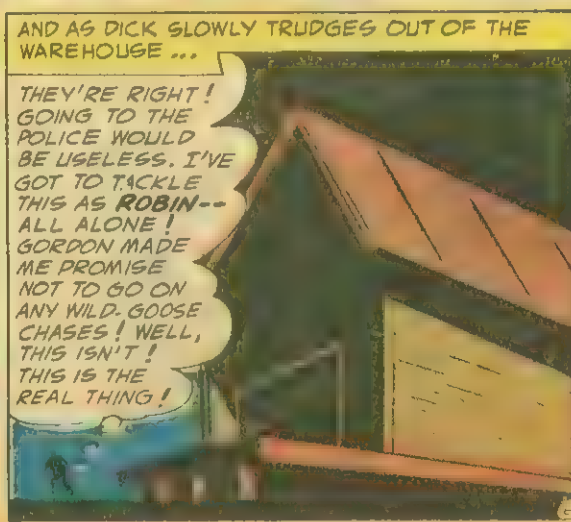
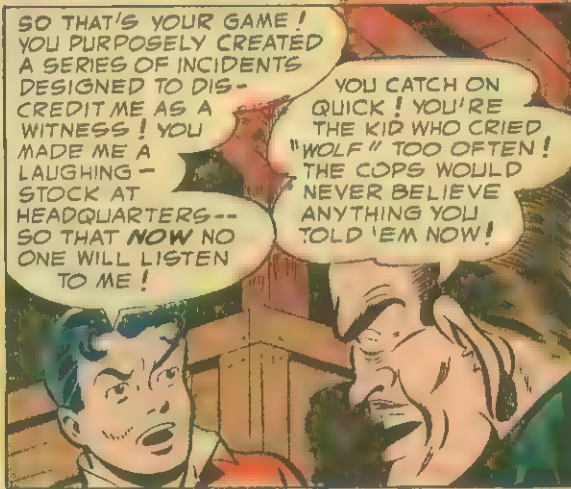
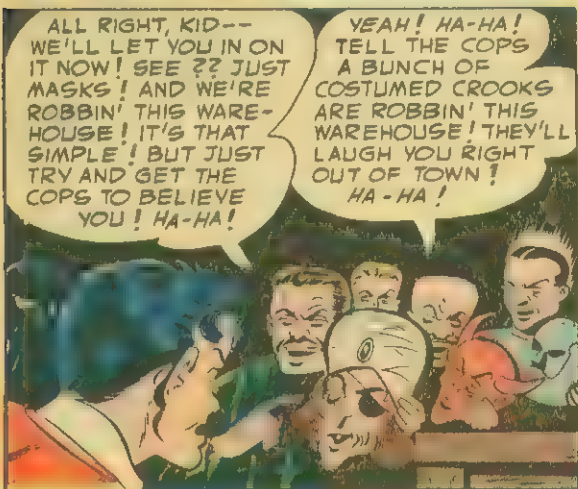
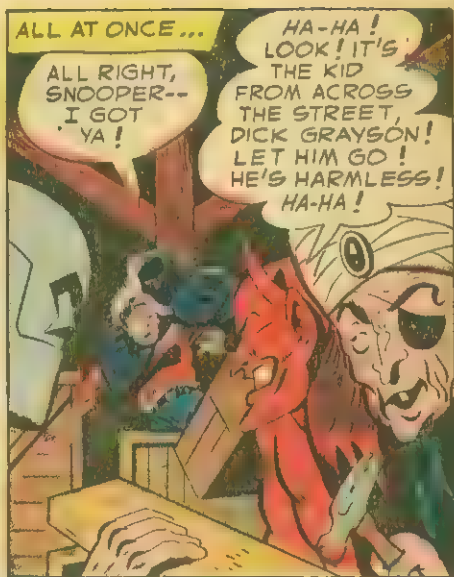
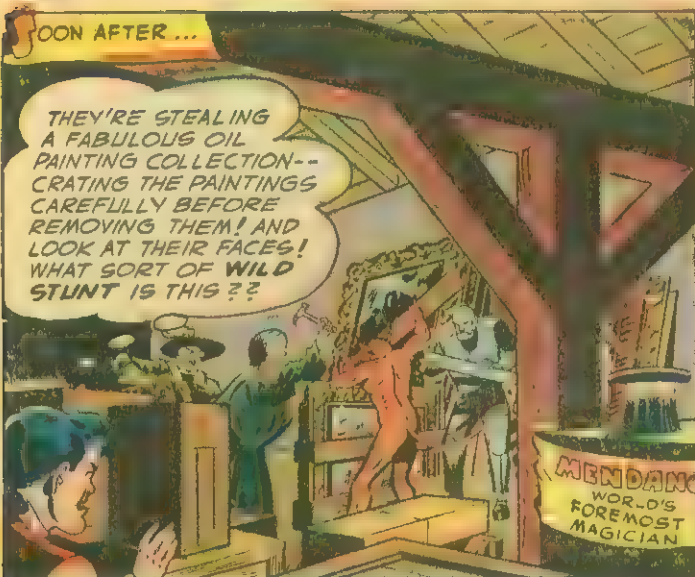
A FINE KETTLE OF FISH! GORDON WON'T LET ME HELP MYSELF! I'VE GOT TO FIGURE A WAY OUT !!



AND THAT EVENING, AS **ROBIN** REVERTS TO HIS ROLE AS DICK AND WARILY WAITS FOR SOME NEW MYSTERIOUS INTRUSION...

SOMEONE'S IN THAT WAREHOUSE! I'M GOING TO SEE IF I CAN SURPRISE HIM!



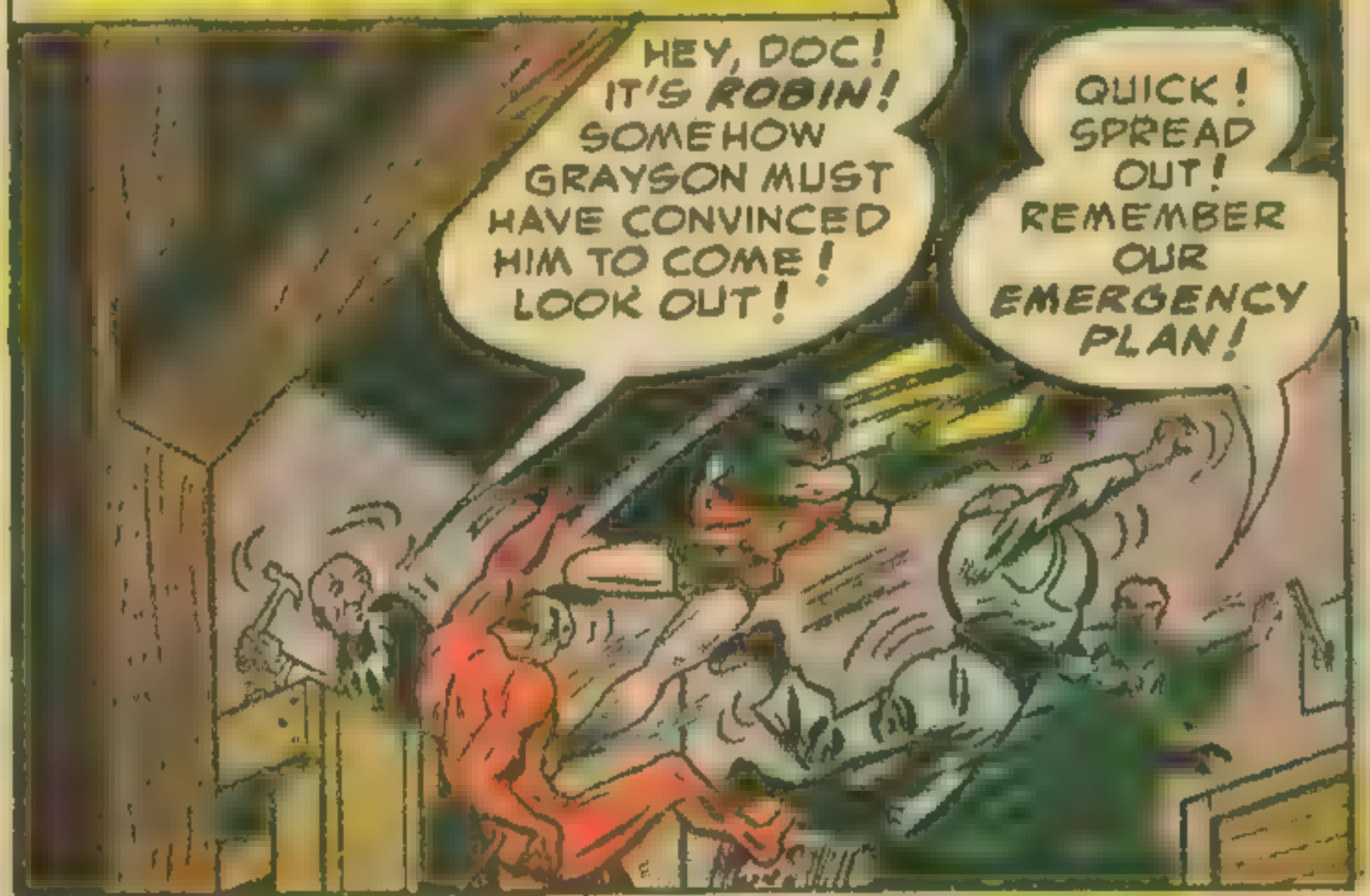


SOON AFTER, AS DICK COMPLETES HIS TRANSFORMATION INTO ROBIN AND ONCE AGAIN APPROACHES THE WAREHOUSE ...



THEY OUTNUMBER ME FIVE TO ONE! MY ONLY CHANCE IS A SURPRISE ATTACK!

AND IN THE NEXT MOMENT, AS THE GALLANT YOUNG LAWMAN SWOOPS INTO ACTION ...



HEY, DOC! IT'S ROBIN! SOMEHOW GRAYSON MUST HAVE CONVINCED HIM TO COME! LOOK OUT!

QUICK! SPREAD OUT! REMEMBER OUR EMERGENCY PLAN!

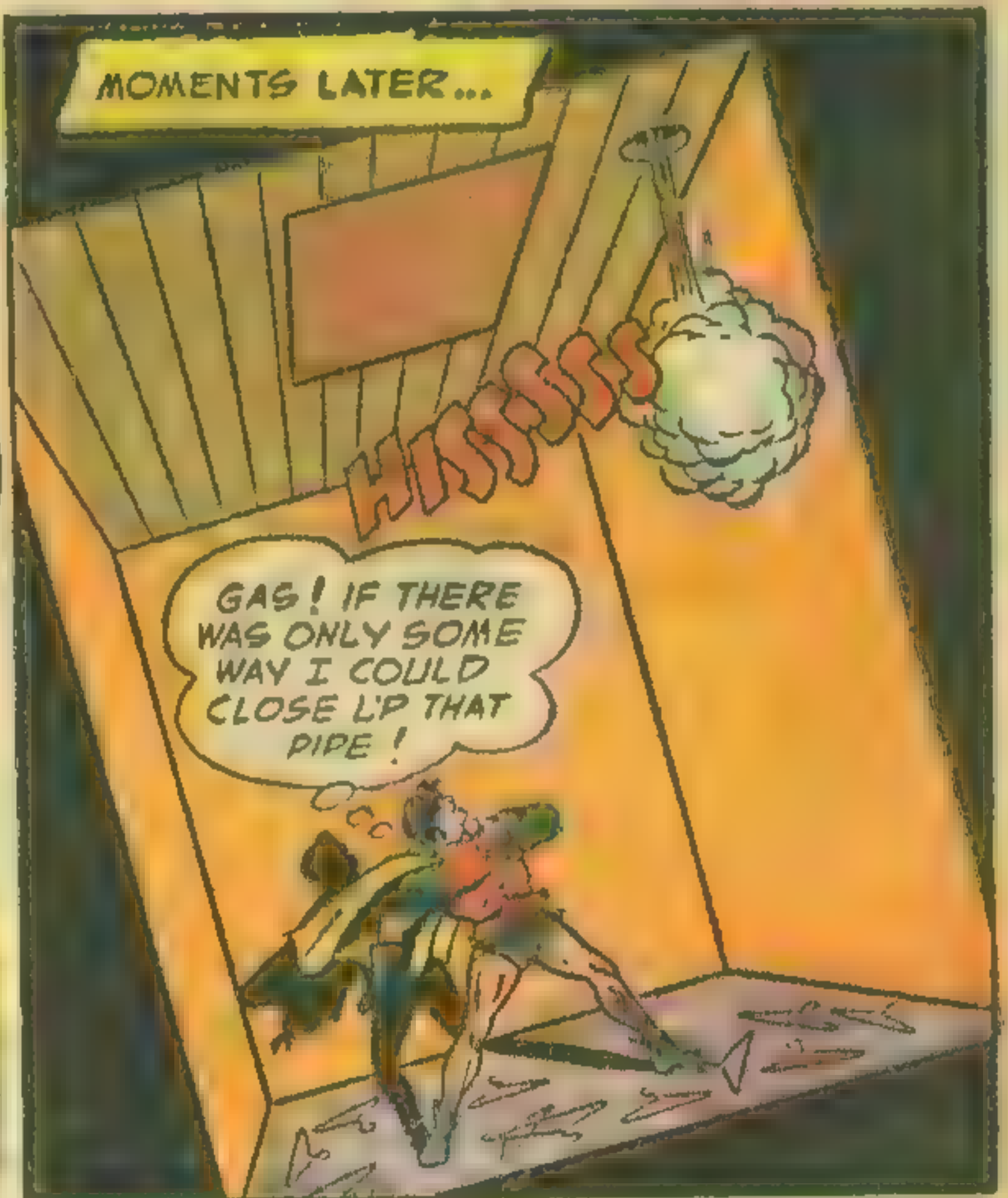
ALL AT ONCE, AS DOC SUDDENLY PULLS A LEVER ON THE WALL ...



A TRAP DOOR!

SO LONG, ROBIN! THAT TRAP DOOR IS DROPPIN' YOU INTO AN OLD FUR-STORAGE VAULT-- WHICH WE'RE GONNA TURN INTO A GAS CHAMBER! HA-HA!

MOMENTS LATER...



GAS! IF THERE WAS ONLY SOME WAY I COULD CLOSE UP THAT PIPE!



CAN'T--REACH IT! SMELLS LIKE ORDINARY ILLUMINATING GAS! IF I COULD ONLY GET A LIGHTED MATCH UP TO IT, IT WOULD BURN AND NOT SUFFOCATE ME! BUT HOW?

ABRUPTLY, ROBIN'S EYES ALIGHT ON THE PILE OF METAL CLOTHES-- HANGERS ON THE FLOOR!

ON THE NEXT MOMENT...

BY STRAIGHTENING OUT THESE HANGERS I CAN GET STRAIGHT PIECES OF WIRE. FASTENING A FEW TOGETHER WILL GIVE ME JUST THE IMPLEMENT I NEED!



His wire-pole completed, **ROBIN** attaches a lighted match to the end of it!

Then, as he carefully raises the match to the gas pipe...

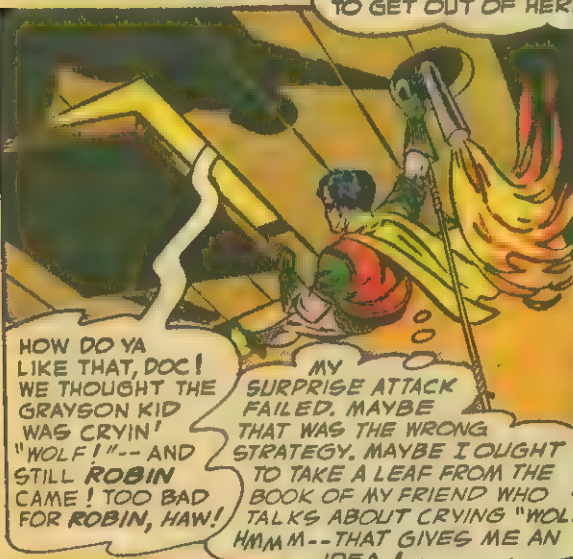


IT WORKED! (Puff) and just in time, too! A few minutes more and I would have passed out--or that lighted match would have sent the whole building up! And now to get out of here!

Using the same wire, **ROBIN** twists one end of it into a hook! Then...



That hole where the gas pipe protrudes was made-to-order to hook this wire into. Now to get up to that trap door!



How do ya like that, Doc! We thought the Grayson kid was cryin' "Wolf!"--and still **ROBIN** came! Too bad for Robin, haw!

My surprise attack failed. Maybe that was the wrong strategy. Maybe I ought to take a leaf from the book of my friend who talks about crying "Wolf!" HMM--that gives me an idea!

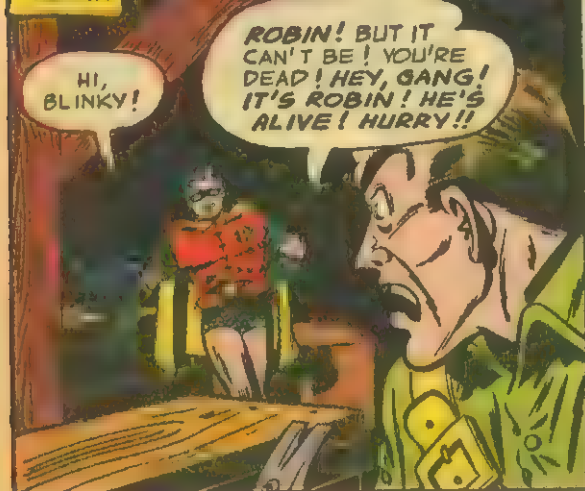
A moment later, as **ROBIN** slips unseen into the warehouse...



We're gonna start packin' the truck, Blinky! You stay here and finish that crate!

Right!

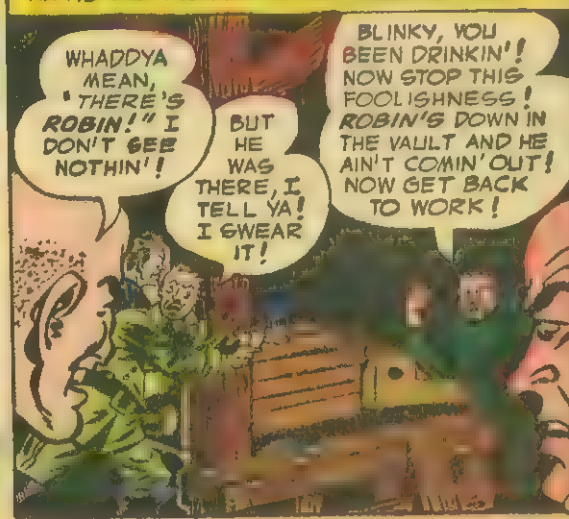
Then...



Hi, Blinky!

ROBIN! But it can't be! You're dead! Hey, gang! It's **ROBIN!** He's alive! Hurry!!

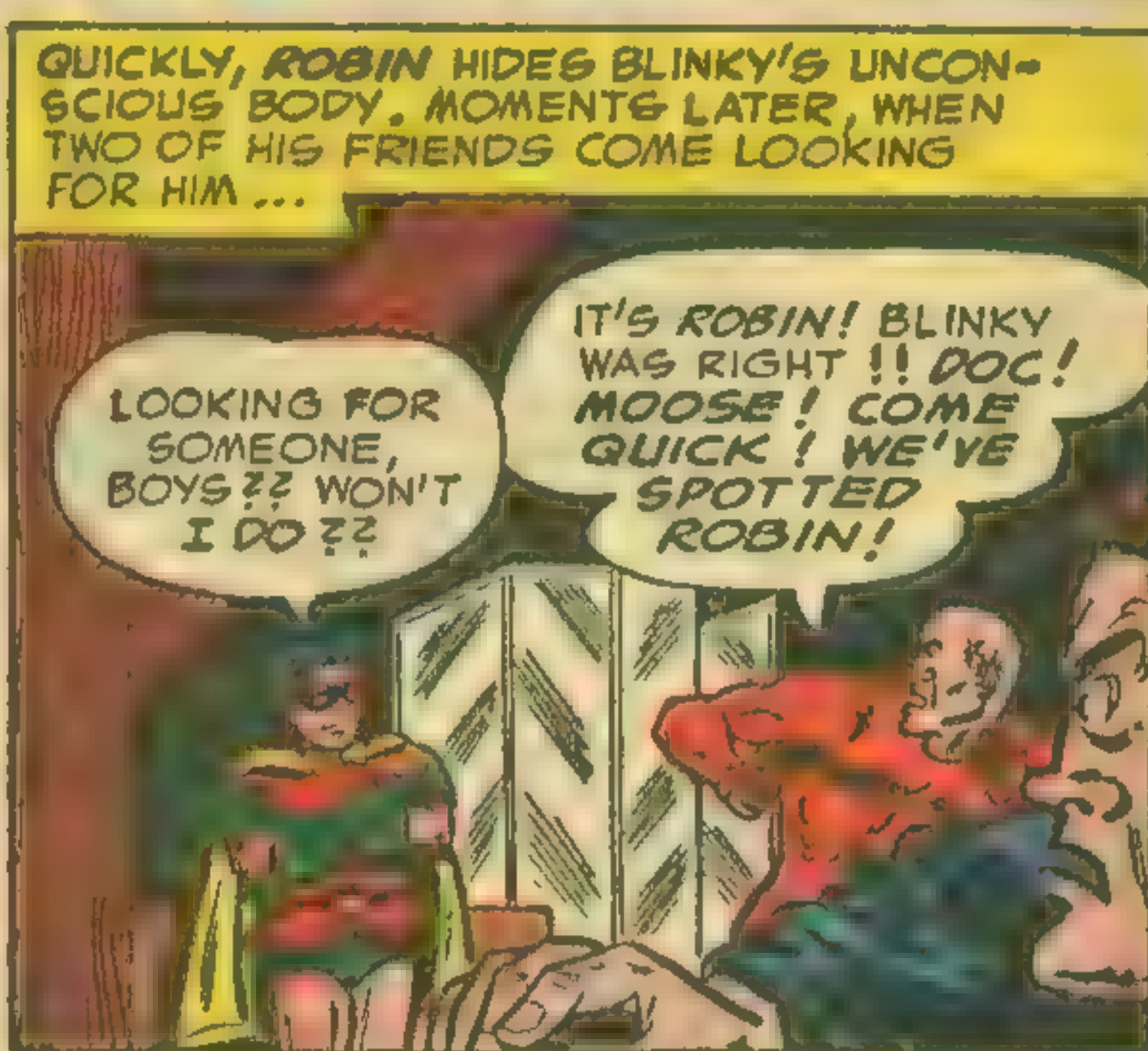
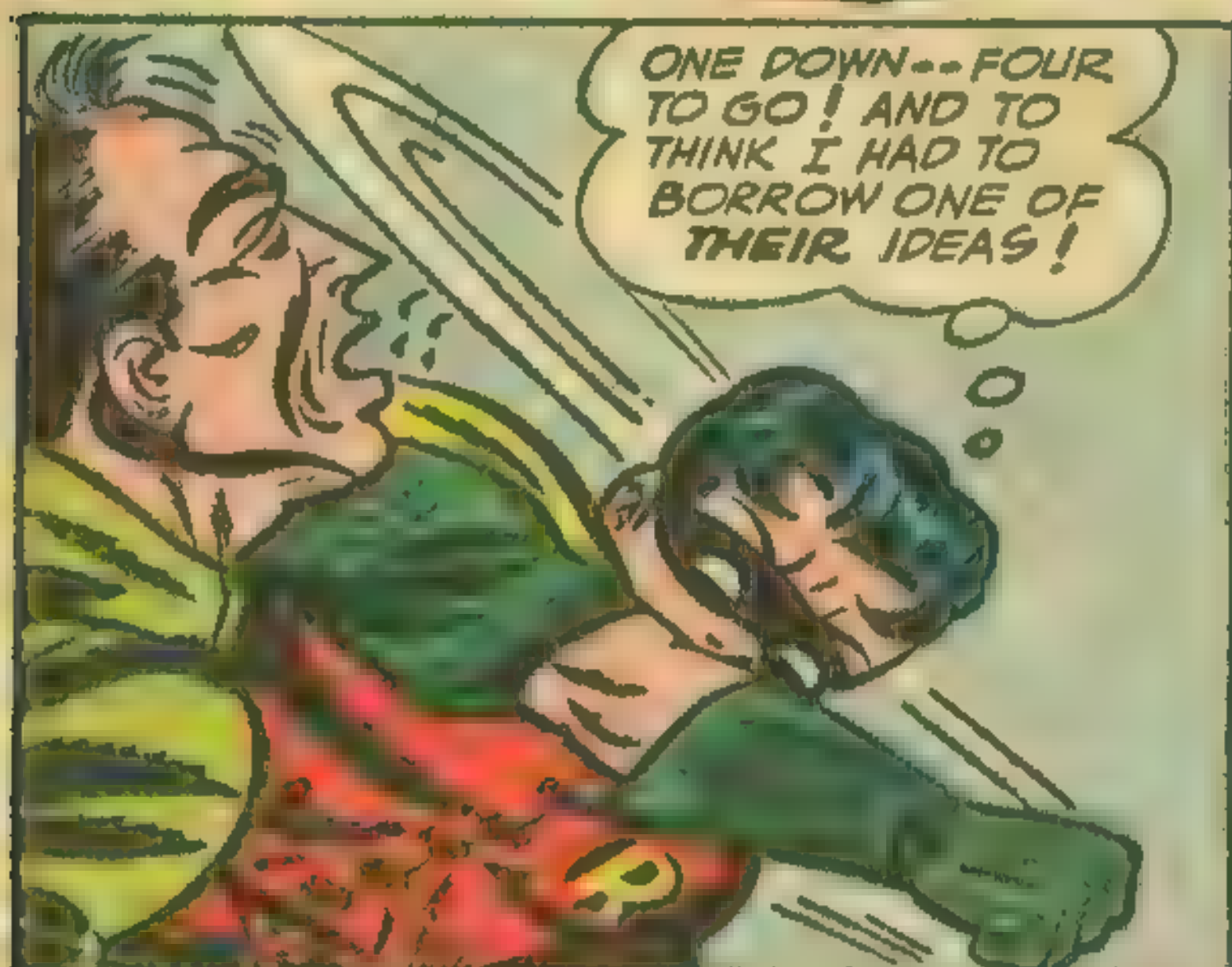
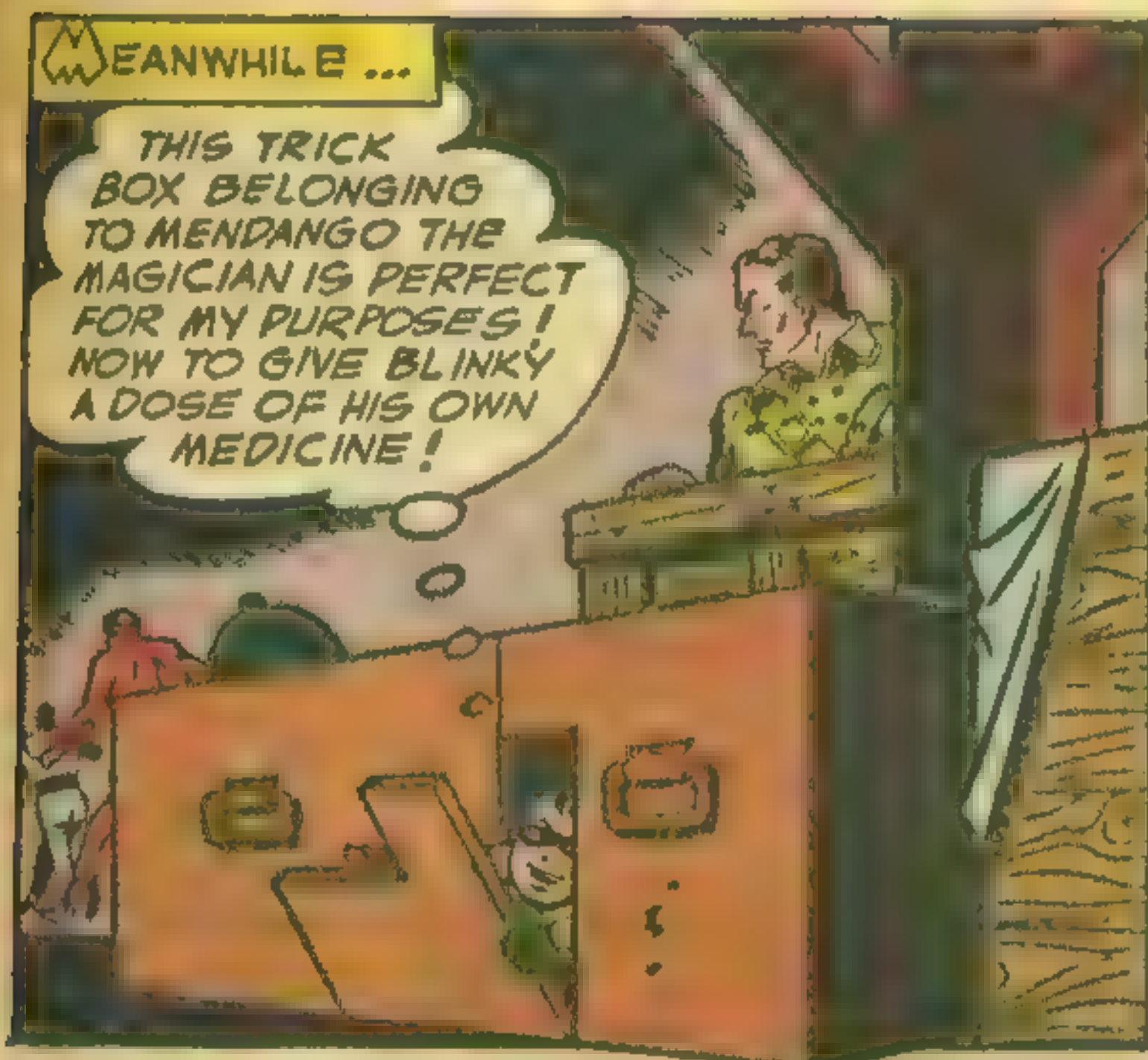
As the crooks come rushing up...



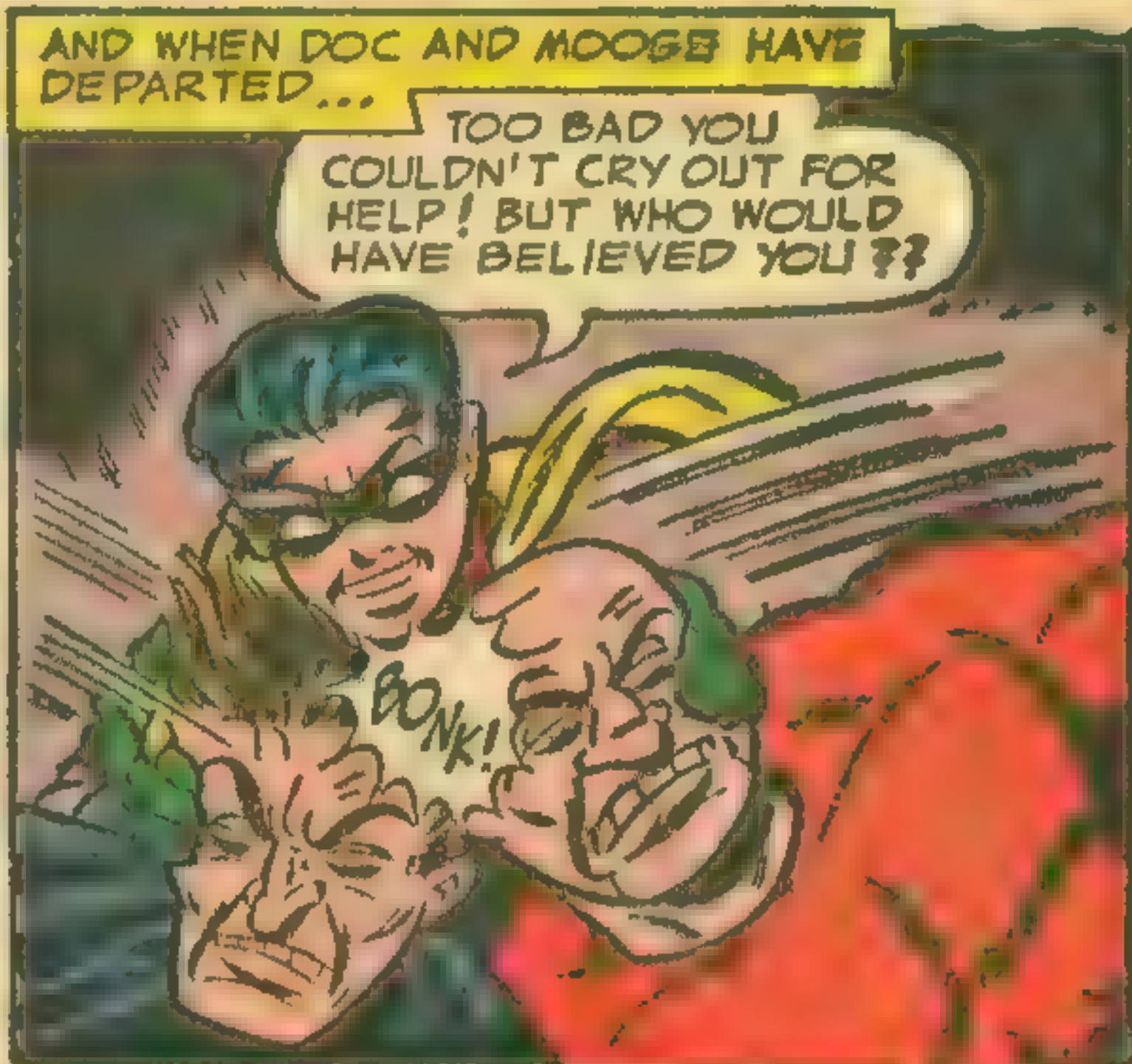
Whaddya mean, there's **ROBIN!** I don't see nothin'!

But he was there, I tell ya! I swear it!

Blinky, you been drinkin'! Now stop this foolishness! **ROBIN'S** down in the vault and he ain't comin' out! Now get back to work!

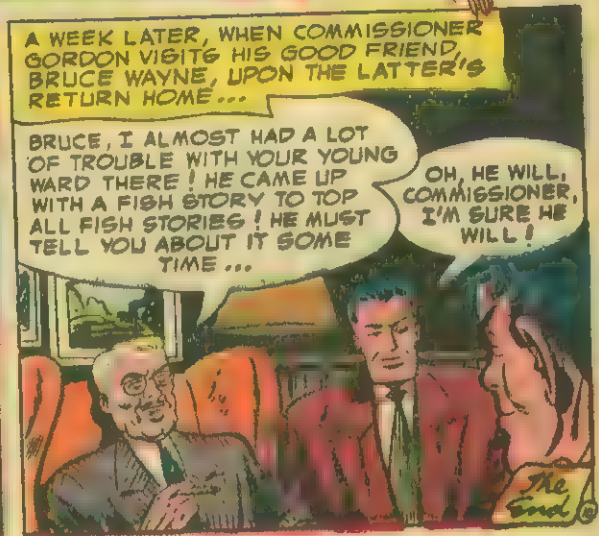
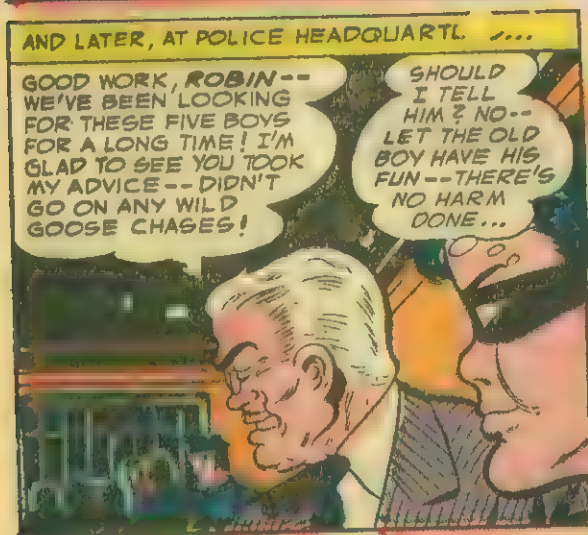
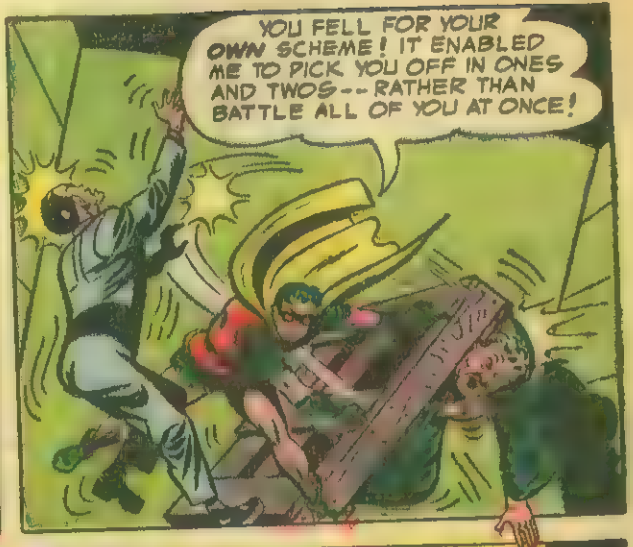


AND ONCE MORE, IN THE INSTANT THAT THE CROOKS' EYES ARE TAKEN OFF HIM, ROBIN PERFORMS HIS DISAPPEARING ACT!





BATMAN



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CASEY

THE COP

COME ON!

I'LL CALL THE STATION HOUSE.

SARGE, THIS IS CASEY.

A MAN HAS BEEN ROBBED DOWN HERE, AND I'VE GOT ONE OF THEM!

GOOD!

ARREST HIM AND BRING HIM IN!

WHO? THE MAN WHO WAS ROBBED? THAT'S THE ONE I GOT!

END.



THE AUSTRALIAN DINGO IS HALF-WOLF, HALF-DOG, AND ITS AMAZING CUNNING AND INTELLIGENCE HAVE OUTWITTED THE SHREWDEST HUNTERS IN THE WORLD!

NO ONE REALLY KNOWS WHERE THE DINGO CAME FROM, BUT THE POPULAR THEORY IS THAT IT ORIGINATED IN SOUTH EAST ASIA, AND CROSSED OVER TO AUSTRALIA WHEN THE TWO CONTINENTS WERE CONNECTED BY A LAND BRIDGE.



IN AUSTRALIA, NO ANIMAL OR REPTILE IS HATED MORE THAN THE DINGO! THE REASON?



GEORGE! GEORGE!
THE DINGOES ARE
ATTACKING OUR
SHEEP AGAIN!

BUT EVERY ATTACK ENDED THE SAME WAY...

IT'S NO USE,
GEORGE--- THEY
ALWAYS GET AWAY
BEFORE YOU CAN
GET CLOSE ENOUGH
TO SHOOT THEM!

YEP... SEEMS LIKE ONE OF 'EM
ALWAYS KEEPS WATCH, WHILE
THE OTHER DOES THE DIRTY
WORK, THEN WARNS IT WHEN
DANGER THREATENS! SOME-
THIN' WILL JUST **HAVE** TO
BE DONE, MANDY!



SOMETHING WAS DONE! THE FARMERS POOLED THEIR MONEY, AND HIRED SOME PROFESSIONAL HUNTERS...



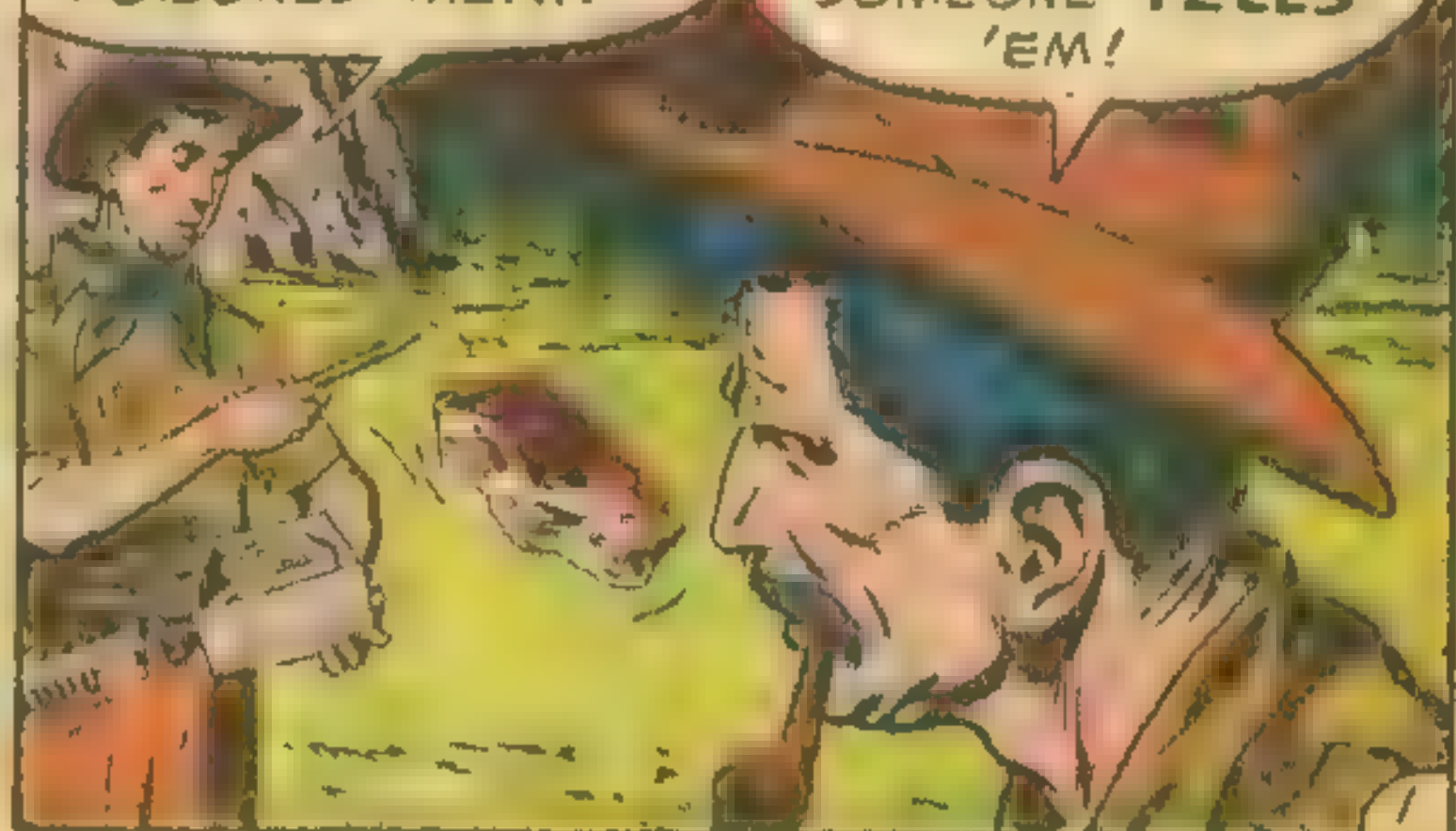
DON'T KNOW WHAT
GOOD THEM GUNS
WILL DO! DINGOES
CAN SPOT A HUMAN
A MILE OFF!

DON'T WORRY!
THERE'S MORE THAN
ONE WAY TO SKIN A
CAT--- OR KILL A
DINGO!

THE HUNTERS STARTED OUT, USING ALL THE USUAL METHODS OF TRAPPING MARAUDING BEASTS, BUT...

THOSE DANGED DINGOES
HAVE AVOIDED EVERY
PIT AND NET WE LAID
FOR THEM! MAYBE
THEY'LL GO FOR THIS
POISONED MEAT!

THEY SHOULD...
THAT POISON IS
ABSOLUTELY ODOR-
LESS! ONLY WAY
THEY'LL KNOW IT'S
POISONED, IS IF
SOMEONE **TELLS**
'EM!





BATMAN



BUT, TO THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF EVERYONE, NOT A SINGLE DEAD DINGO WAS REPORTED FOUND ANYWHERE, UNTIL, ONE DAY...

I---I CAN'T UNDERSTAND IT NOW! THEY COULDN'T POSSIBLY KNOW THAT MEAT IS POISONED! YET THEY DO KNOW! HOW?

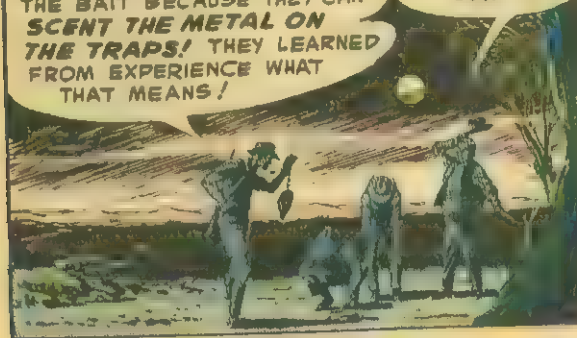
WE'LL FIND OUT YET!



BUT THE DINGOES CONTINUED TO IGNORE THE BAIT, AND FURTHER INVESTIGATION REVEALED STILL ANOTHER AMAZING FACET OF THE WILY BEASTS' INTELLIGENCE...

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, MR. JONES, THE BEASTS ARE AVOIDING THE BAIT BECAUSE THEY CAN SCENT THE METAL ON THE TRAPS! THEY LEARNED FROM EXPERIENCE WHAT THAT MEANS!

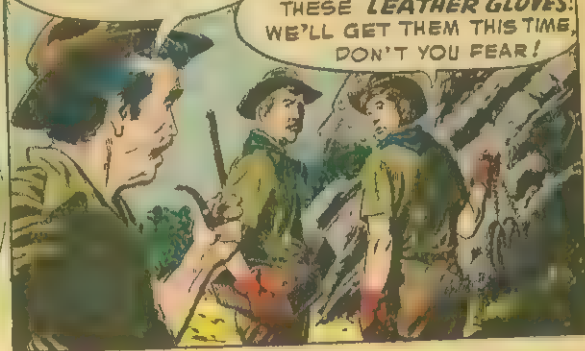
BUT THEY CAN'T BE THAT BLAMED CUNNING... **THEY CAN'T!**



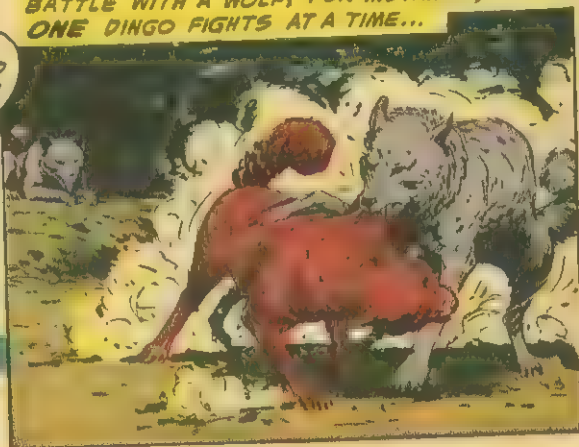
WHEN, AFTER SOME INVESTIGATION...

YOU MEAN TO SAY, THOSE DINGOES WERE ABLE TO CATCH THE SCENT OF THE HUMAN HANDS THAT TOUCHED THE MEAT BAIT?

THAT'S IT... SO WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW IS **BOILING** THE MEAT, AND DISTRIBUTING IT, WEARING THESE **LEATHER GLOVES!** WE'LL GET THEM THIS TIME, DON'T YOU FEAR!



TALK ABOUT BEING CUNNING... DINGOES MARAUD IN PAIRS, AND ATTACK IN PAIRS, BUT, IN A BATTLE WITH A WOLF, FOR INSTANCE, ONLY **ONE DINGO FIGHTS AT A TIME...**



WHEN BOTH FIGHTERS TIRE IN WHAT HAS UP TO NOW BEEN AN EQUAL CONTEST...

GET IT? NOW THAT THE FIRST DINGO... THE ONE THAT'S BEEN FIGHTING... IS TIRED, THE SECOND DINGO TAKES HIS PLACE! THE WOLF HASN'T GOT A CHANCE AGAINST THAT KIND OF STRATEGY!

SOME SORT OF A SOLUTION SUGGESTED ITSELF, WHEN ONE DAY...

GEORGE, HURRY, HURRY, A DINGO'S GOT HOLD OF JUNIOR!

WHAT...? NO, WAIT A MINUTE, THAT---THAT DINGO PUPPY IS **PLAYING** WITH JUNIOR!



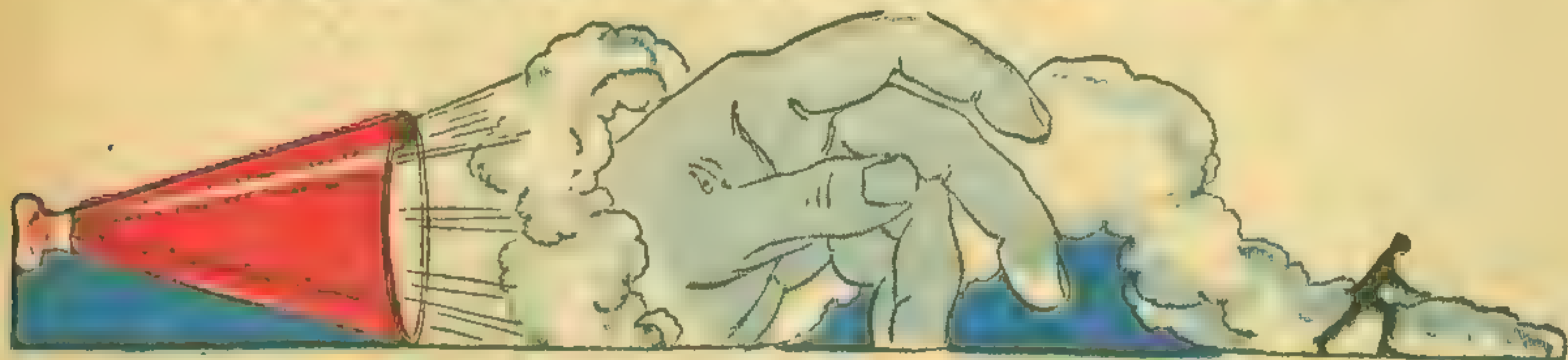
HIS INCIDENT LED TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE DINGO WAS NOT A "NATURAL" KILLER! FROM THEN ON, WHENEVER DINGO PUPPIES WERE CAPTURED, THEY GREW UP INTO GENTLE HOUSEHOLD PETS...

SEE, SON, IT'S THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE THAT MAKES THEM WHAT THEY ARE! THE ONLY WAY WE CAN CORRECT THE SITUATION IS TO CAPTURE THE YOUNG ONES, AND BRING 'EM UP RIGHT!



THE END!

CALLING ALL CON MEN!



Sooner or Later, Police or the FBI Catches Up With These Swindlers, but Meanwhile They're Troublesome

IN 1952, police departments from coast to coast took into custody a record number of confidence men—a term applied to well-dressed hoodlums who take advantage of the inherent honesty of most people to mulct them out of as much money as the traffic will bear. Just the same, police estimate that the con men gypped the American public out of two and a half billion dollars. And, warn policemen, they figure to repeat in 1953, if you don't watch out.

A con man is the most difficult type of criminal for the police to apprehend. The reason is plain—the victim usually feels so foolish for having been taken in that, in most cases, he is willing to accept his losses, and forget the whole thing. Naturally, this only gives the con man the opportunity to seek out a brand new victim.

Another stumbling block for the police is the fact that the modern con man, unlike the popular type that operated years ago and wore flashy clothes, assumes the manner and dress of the every-day citizen. More often than not, he looks like the last man in the world you'd ever suspect of wanting to do you out of your money.

And don't think for one moment that you are immune from their wily stunts. For instance, one day last summer, a housewife

was suddenly interrupted in her Monday washing by a ring of the doorbell. Opening the door, she was confronted by an official-looking citizen, who swiftly flashed a badge at the hapless woman. Later, the woman admitted that she had not been able to read a single word on the gleaming silver badge.

This was a month of water-shortage. Of course, the housewife knew this, and she conserved water wherever possible, but the washing had to be done, hadn't it? The official visitor shook his head. "Not between the hours of 9 and 12," he said.

Then came the gimmick. Did she want to pay the \$5 now, to him, or would she prefer to pay it at City Hall this afternoon, when the Save-the-Water Committee would be in session.

The housewife thought fast. There was lunch for the kiddies to get ready, the shopping still to be done, etc., etc. She paid the man the \$5 and considered that it was very considerate of the Save-the-Water Committee to give her a choice.

The housewife learned the next day that the con man had visited almost every house in her neighborhood that day, and had collected, all told, about \$1,200. Needless to say, there never was any law against washing clothes on Monday between the hours of

9 and 12, and, to her added humiliation, there never was a Save-the-Water Commit-

tee.

The modern con-man can appear in a wide variety of roles. Sometimes he is the gas-collector, or the man from the water company, and the next day he may come rapping on your back door for a contribution to the hospital building fund for that new wing, which, you can be sure, will never get built.

Do you know the name of your State Senator, or what he looks like? Recently, a wealthy merchant entertained his "State Senator" at a lavish dinner—and then wound up the evening by presenting him with a substantial contribution to the "Senator's" pet charity. As it turned out, the so-called Senator's pet charity was—you guessed it—himself!

Not even the Army is safe from the con man. Would you be suspicious if an Army colonel, ostensibly in charge of local recruiting, offered you an opportunity to study under his personal supervision, with the guarantee that once inducted, you'd be made a lieutenant?

No, of course you wouldn't—not you! But you'd be surprised how many future inductees shelled out \$1,000 a piece for the

book!

Sooner or later, the police or the FBI catches up with even the shrewdest swindlers. That's not the point. The police would prefer to catch them before they talk you out of your life's savings, not after. Swindlers are invariably high livers. Nothing, they feel, is ever too good for them. Con-

sequently, they almost never have any of their victims' money left.

Not only the middle class folk are targets for the con men. The bigger the operator, the bigger the prize. You and I would become wealthy if we had a dime for every rich man who fell for the notorious Gutenberg Bible Swindle.

This particular bible is very rare, and very precious. In this swindle, the con man usually works in collaboration with a clever thief—or, alone, if he is himself a clever thief.

The first step is to "borrow" a real Gutenberg Bible from a famous collection, or museum. Then the prospective purchaser is taken to the hotel room. Customarily, a man ready to shell out a fortune for an art treasure comes equipped to determine whether the bible offered him is legitimate, or a forgery. In no time at all, he realizes he is looking at a genuine Gutenberg. After some hickering, a price is agreed upon. The bible is wrapped up.

The bible is too heavy to lug out by hand, so a messenger is called. The messenger, however, is handed a clever forgery to deliver, while the genuine bible is returned to the private collection, or museum.

What about the purchaser? Sometimes he may never discover the switch. After all, he had already checked the Bible! He knew it was genuine!

What can you do to combat the con men? Take your police department into your confidence the moment you suspect someone with a good proposition is a phoney!

—Jack E. Miller



BATMAN

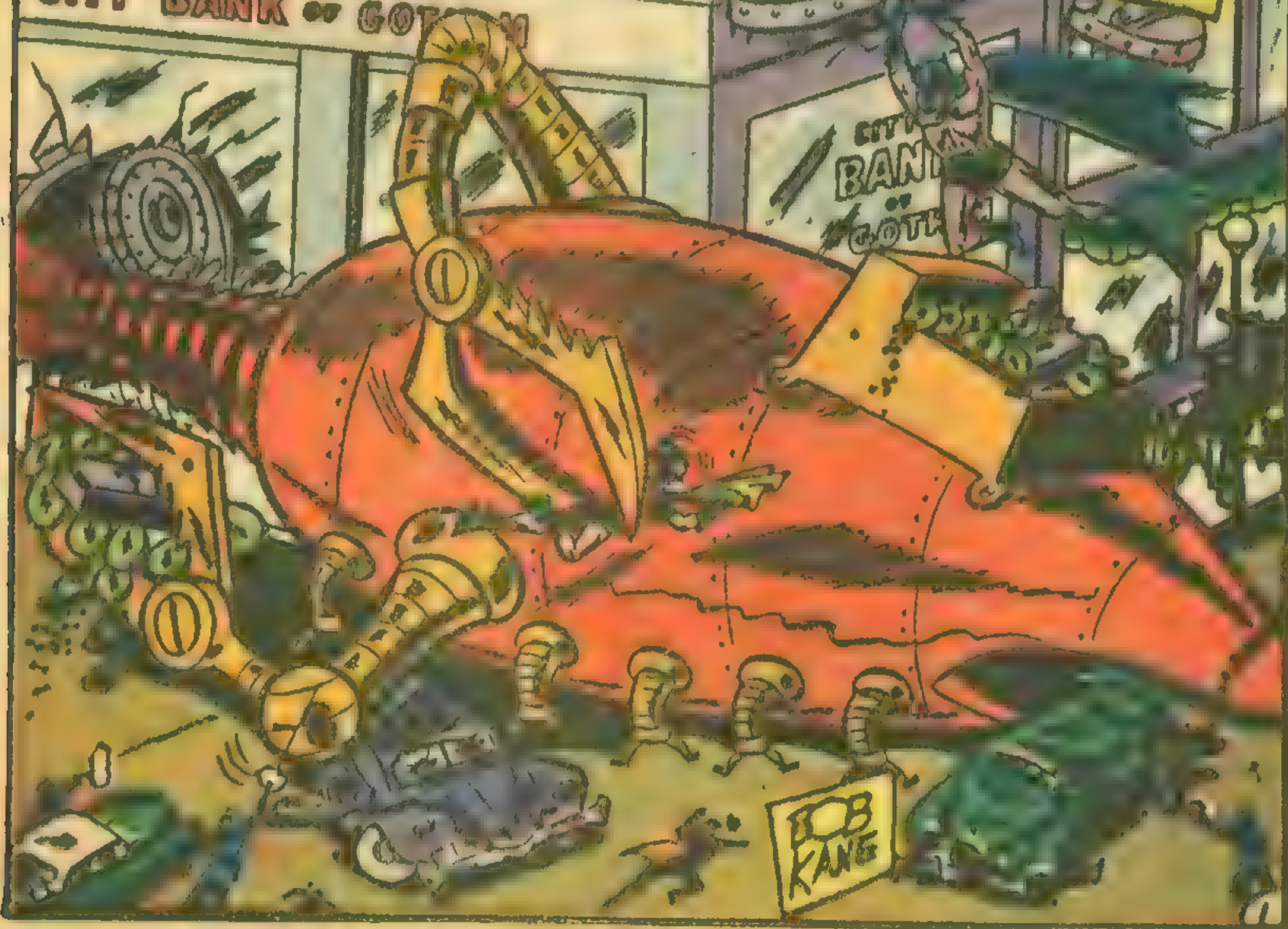
ROBIN

MACHINES

of MENACE!

THIS IS A STORY ABOUT
MACHINES... MONSTROUS MACHINES
IN REVOLT AGAINST MAN... USING
THEIR AWESOME POWER TO
DESTROY INSTEAD OF CREATE!
CAN EVEN
BATMAN AND ROBIN
PREVAIL AGAINST THESE
MECHANICAL MARAUDERS?
READ ON...
AND SHARE THE SPINE-
CHILLING ADVENTURES OF THE
DYNAMIC DUO
AS THEY BATTLE...

CITY BANK OF GOTHAM



NIGHT SPREADS ITS MANTLE OVER GOTHAM CITY, WHEN SUDDENLY IS HEARD A STRANGE WHIRRING NOISE, FOLLOWED BY...

GREAT SCOTT! WH-WHAT'S THAT?

BANK!

WHRUMP!

IT'S BREAKING INTO THE BANK, AND...AND MY BULLETS CAN'T STOP IT! I---I'D BETTER SEND IN AN ALARM!

CRASH

BANG
BANG

A CRUISING BLACK SHADOW PICKS UP THE POLICE ALARM... AND SECONDS LATER, THE POWERFUL BATMOBILE RACES ONTO THE SCENE...

BATMAN! I THOUGHT THAT REPORT WAS CRAZY... BUT IT'S TRUE! A---A MACHINE IS ROBBING THE BANK... ALL BY ITSELF!

NOT VERY LIKELY, ROBIN!

SWIFTLY MIXING CHEMICALS FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, BATMAN TOSSES A SMALL PHIAL INTO THE BODY OF THE MACHINE...

THERE'S BOUND TO BE A HUMAN DIRECTING IT... THIS SHOULD SMOKE HIM OUT! IT'S XYLIL BROMIDE A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE FORM OF TEAR GAS!

BUT NO ONE APPEARS... AND SLOWLY, THE MONSTROUS MECHANISM TURNS TO FACE ITS NEW ADVERSARIES...

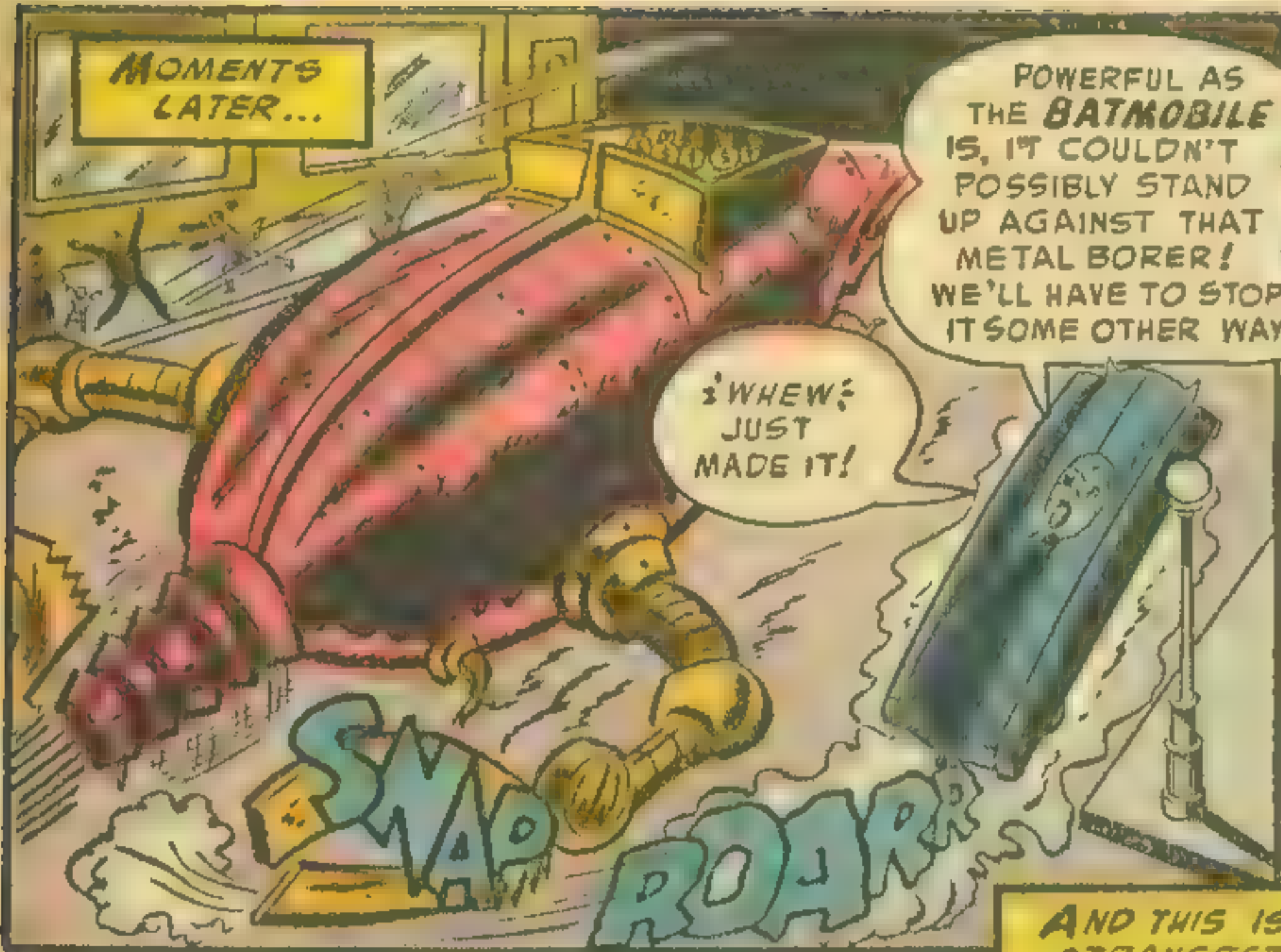
LOOK OUT, ROBIN! THAT PINCH ARM!

SNAP!

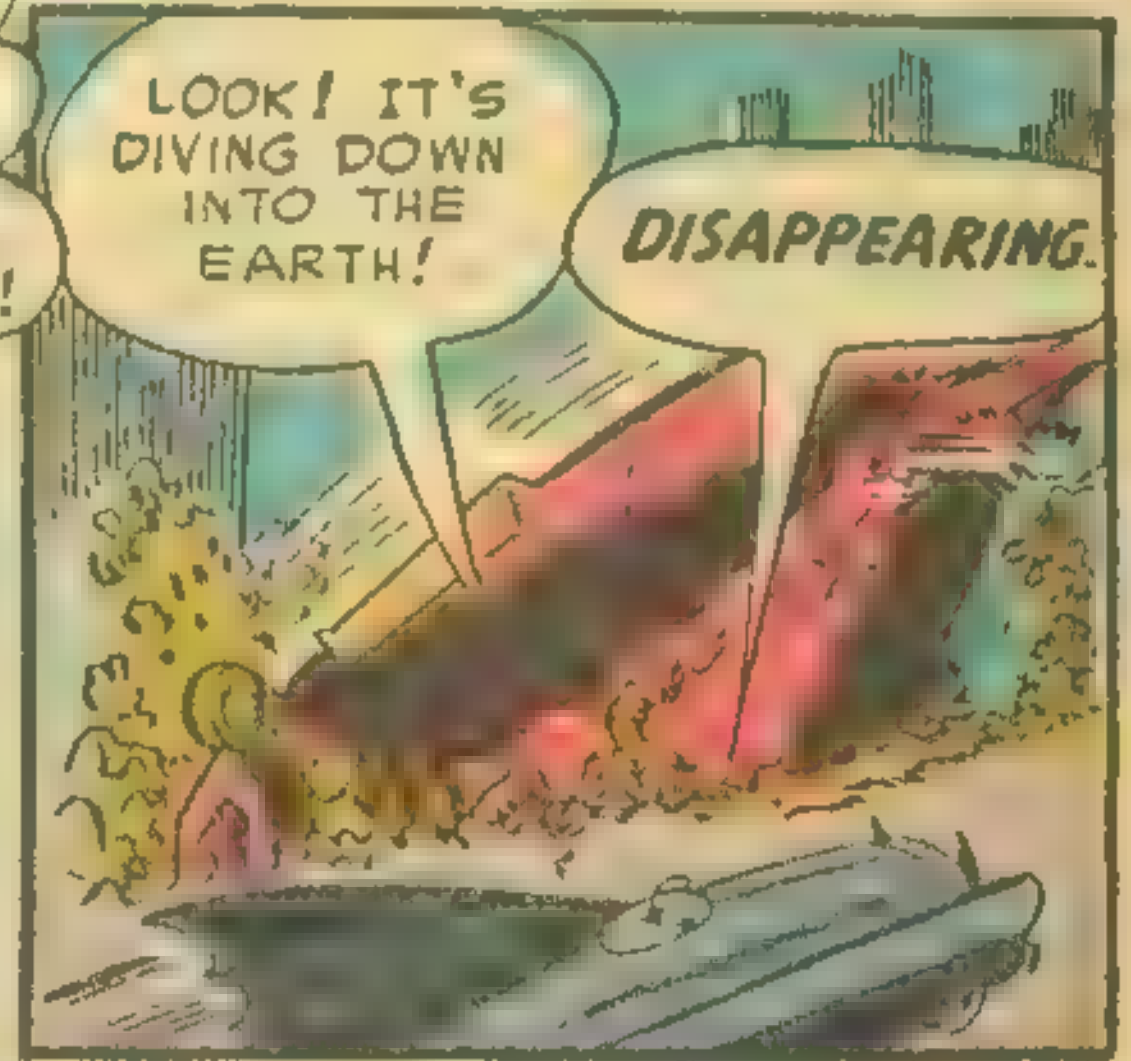
EYOWW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

IT'S COMING AFTER US NOW! QUICK... TO THE BATMOBILE!

GOLLY! THAT MASSIVE HUNK OF METAL SURE MEANS BUSINESS!



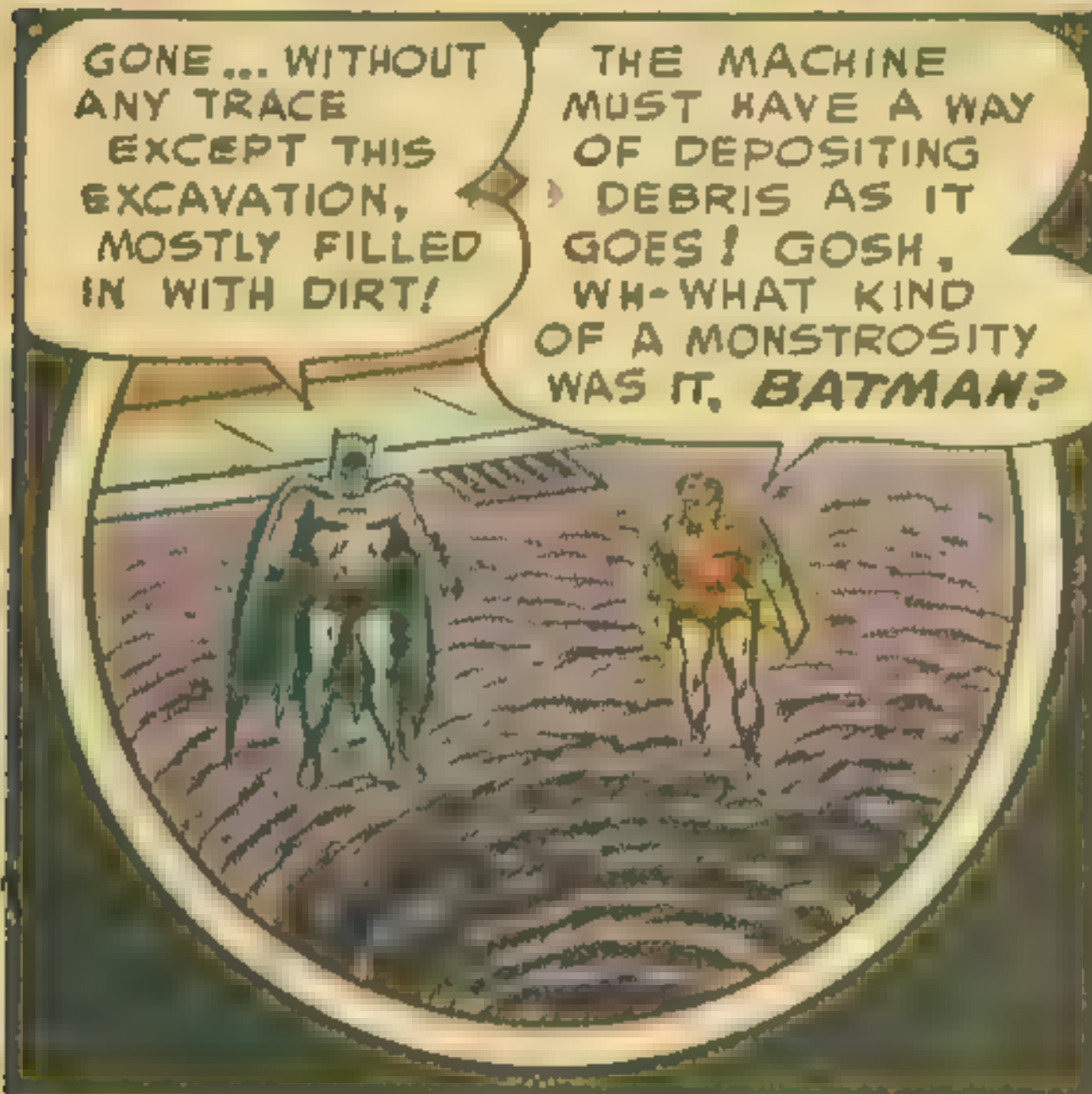
BUT BEFORE THE CAPED CRIME-CRUSHERS CAN MOUNT A NEW ATTACK...



POWERFUL AS THE **BATMOBILE** IS, IT COULDN'T POSSIBLY STAND UP AGAINST THAT METAL BORER! WE'LL HAVE TO STOP IT SOME OTHER WAY!

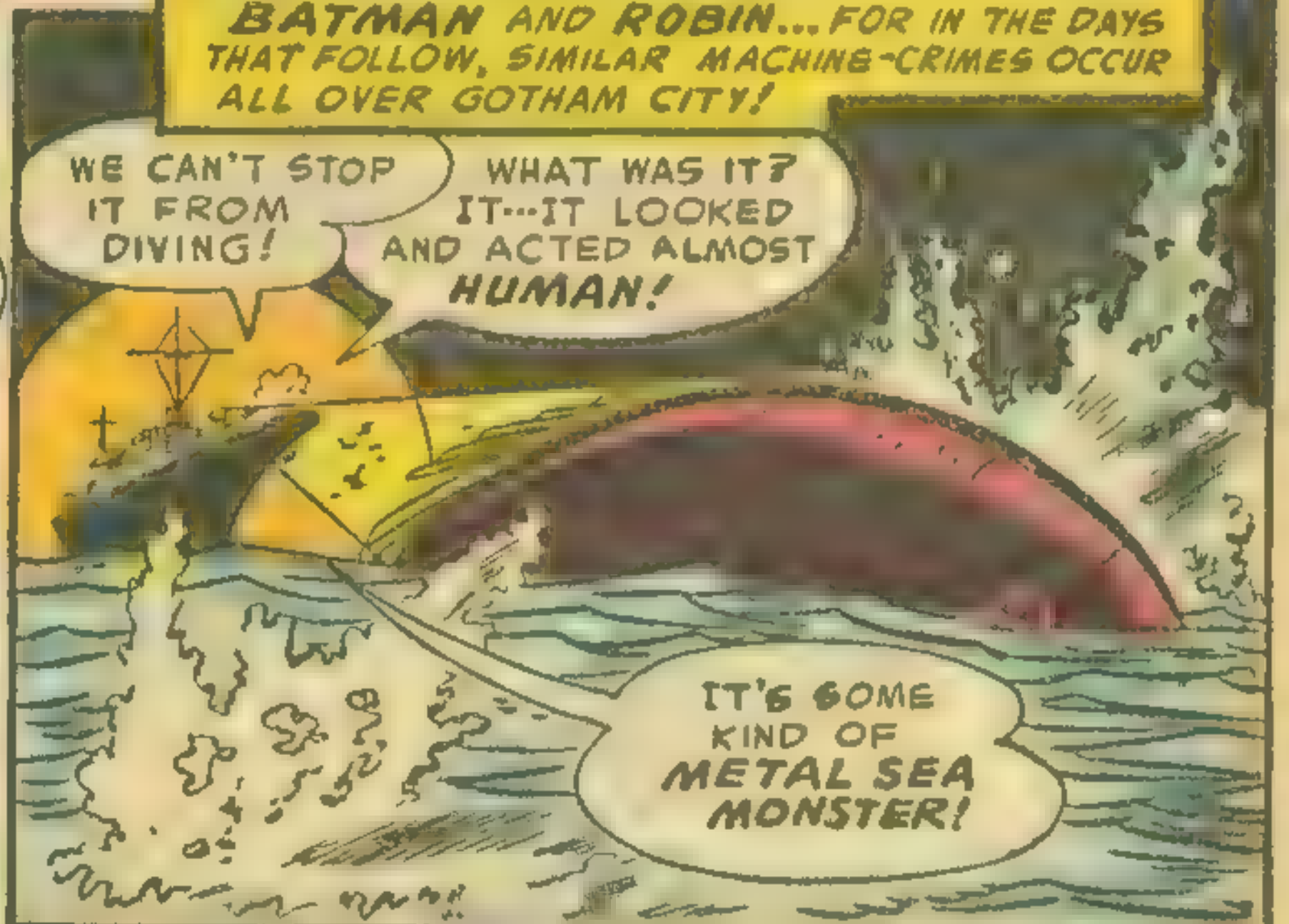
WHEW! JUST MADE IT!

AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF THE STRANGEST PUZZLE EVER TO CONFRONT **BATMAN AND ROBIN**... FOR IN THE DAYS THAT FOLLOW, SIMILAR MACHINE-CRIMES OCCUR ALL OVER GOTHAM CITY!



GONE... WITHOUT ANY TRACE EXCEPT THIS EXCAVATION, MOSTLY FILLED IN WITH DIRT!

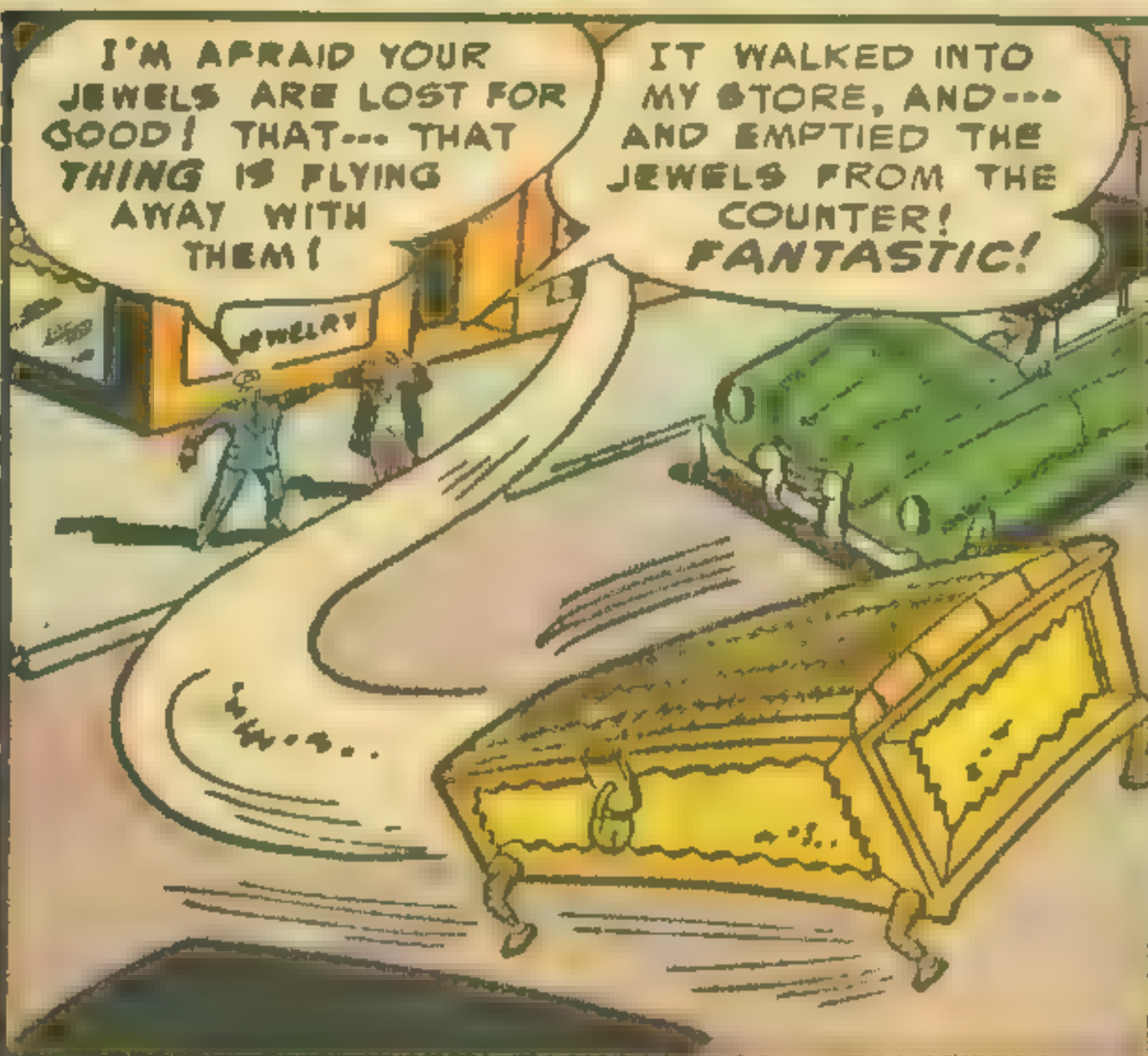
THE MACHINE MUST HAVE A WAY OF DEPOSITING DEBRIS AS IT GOES! GOSH, WH-WHAT KIND OF A MONSTROSITY WAS IT, **BATMAN**?



WE CAN'T STOP IT FROM DIVING!

WHAT WAS IT? IT...IT LOOKED AND ACTED ALMOST HUMAN!

IT'S SOME KIND OF METAL SEA MONSTER!



I'M AFRAID YOUR JEWELS ARE LOST FOR GOOD! THAT... THAT THING IS FLYING AWAY WITH THEM!

IT WALKED INTO MY STORE, AND... AND EMPTIED THE JEWELS FROM THE COUNTER! FANTASTIC!



SOMETHING BROKE IN HERE DURING THE NIGHT, AND STOLE PAINTINGS WORTH A FORTUNE! WHATEVER IT WAS, THE NIGHT WATCHMAN TRIED TO STOP IT, AND NEARLY PAID WITH HIS LIFE!

AND ONE MORNING SHORTLY AFTER, AS STILL ANOTHER ANARCHICAL MESSAGE SOUNDS, **BATMAN AND ROBIN INTO ACTION...**

THERE IT GOES, **BATMAN**, CARRYING A VALUABLE DRUG IT STOLE FROM GOTHAM HOSPITAL! APPARENTLY, IT'S ABLE TO LOCATE HIDDEN CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND DRAW THEM UP BY MAGNETIC ATTRACTION INTO THOSE UMBRELLA POCKETS!

SHALL WE TRY TO STOP IT?

NO, **ROBIN**... WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO SHOOT IT DOWN... BUT I'M MORE INTERESTED IN LEARNING WHERE IT CAME FROM! WE'RE GOING TO FOLLOW IT!

LOOKS LIKE **BATMAN'S** DECIDED TO TRAIL OUR FLYING UMBRELLA, NERO!

SO WHAT? LET HIM COME! WHEN HE GETS NEAR THE ISLAND, WE'LL USE OUR **ELECTRICAL INTERRUPTER** ON HIS PLANE! HE'LL CRASH, AND WE'LL BE RID OF HIM FOREVER!

BUT AT THIS VERY INSTANT, IN AN INTRICATE CONTROL ROOM, WHERE A GROUP OF HARD-FACED MEN STAND BEFORE A UNIQUE TELEVISION SCREEN...

SO WITHIN A FEW SHORT MINUTES, OVER A BODY OF WATER...

BATMAN! OUR MOTOR CONKED OUT... AND WE'RE TOO FAR FROM SHORE TO MAKE IT!

THAT ISLAND LOOKS FAMILIAR! I SAW PICTURES OF IT IN THE NEWSPAPERS! IT'S WHERE **ERIC GOLAR**, THE FAMOUS INVENTOR, RETIRED TO BUILD HIS LABORATORY!

AND ALL THOSE STRANGE MACHINES COULD HAVE BEEN INVENTED BY A GENIUS LIKE GOLAR! MAYBE WE'RE FINALLY GETTING CLOSE TO THE ANSWER, **ROBIN**!

I'LL LOWER THE PONTOONS! WE'LL GET AS CLOSE AS WE CAN, THEN SWIM FOR IT!

SUDDENLY...

ROBIN! GIANT FISHING NETS... CLOSING IN ON US!

WE'RE TRAPPED!

ENSNARING THE HELPLESS PAIR, THE NETS ASCEND BY MEANS OF A POWERFUL CABLE, AND MOVE TOWARD A WAITING VEHICLE ON SHORE...

WE'VE BEEN CAPTURED... WITHOUT A FIGHT!

THERE'S NO ONE TO FIGHT WITH, **BATMAN**! THESE DEVICES ALL WORK AUTOMATICALLY... LIKE ROBOT MECHANISMS!

AND BEFORE THE EYES OF AMUSED SPECTATORS, THE NETS SOON OPEN, DUMPING THEIR "CATCH" INTO HUGE WATER TANKS...

HA, HA... JUST LOOK AT THE POOR FISH, NERO!

BATMAN AND ROBIN CAN'T POSSIBLY ESCAPE FROM THOSE TANKS! THEY'RE CERTAIN TO DROWN EVENTUALLY!

BUT JUST TO MAKE SURE... SPARKY, NED... GET OVER THERE FAST AND FINISH THEM OFF WITH YOUR GUNS!

HAW! THIS IS GONNA BE A PLEASURE, NERO!

MEANWHILE...

AND THE WALLS ARE FOOT-THICK, SHATTERPROOF GLASS! I CAN'T SMASH THROUGH IT! THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE TO SAVE OURSELVES... CLIMB ON MY SHOULDERS, ROBIN!

IT'S TOO STEEP TO CLIMB OUT, BATMAN!

I DON'T GET IT... WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING, BATMAN?

I'M GOING TO STAND ON THE BOTTOM, ROBIN! MEANWHILE, YOU CROUCH FOR A JUMP... AND TIME IT FOR WHEN I MAKE A MOVE!

DOWN SINKS BATMAN TO THE FLOOR OF THE TANK... AND FROM THERE COME TWO MIGHTY LEAPS IN SUCCESSION...

MADE IT!

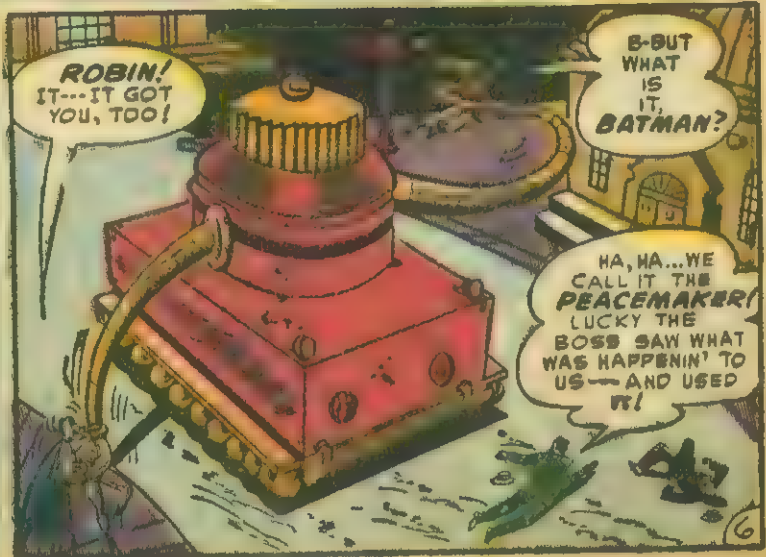
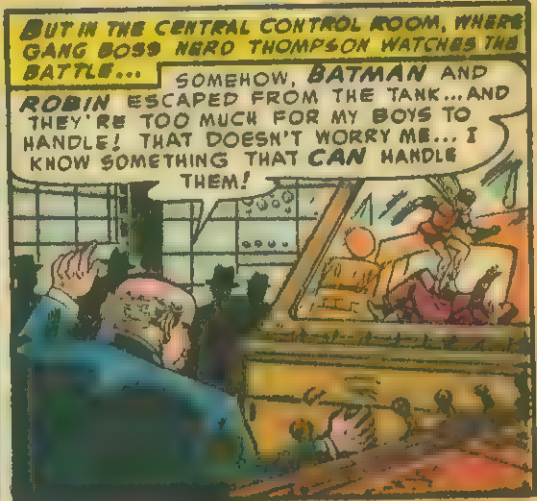
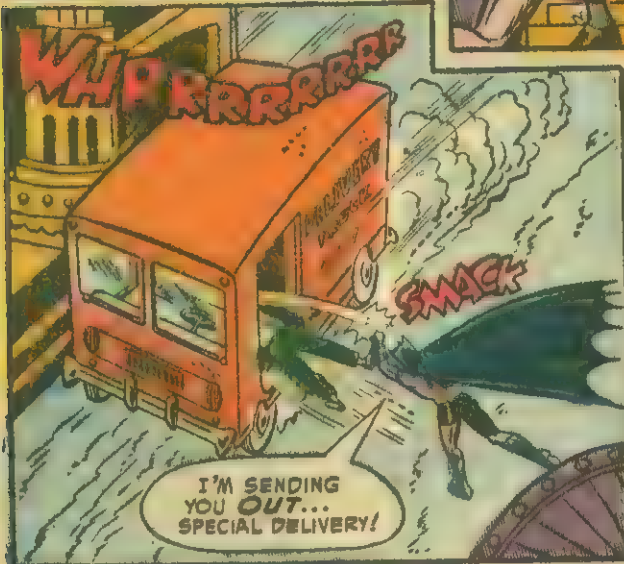
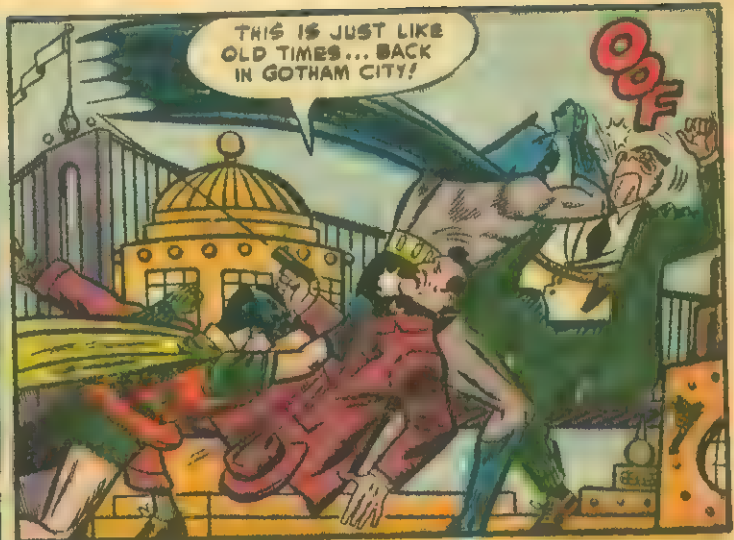
SCRAMBLING TO THE TOP, ROBIN LOWERS HIS CAPE DOWN TO HIS PARTNER IN PERIL...

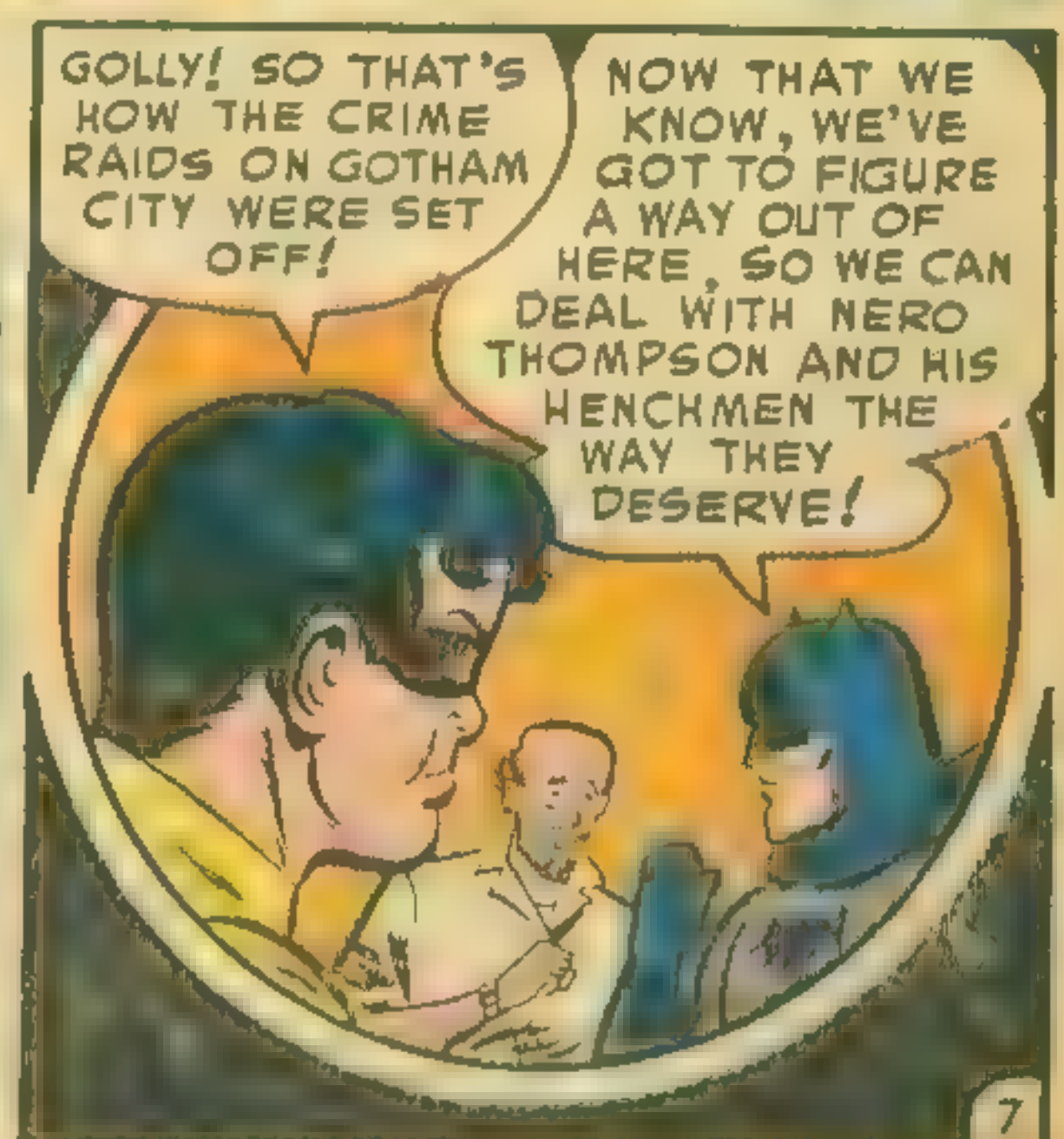
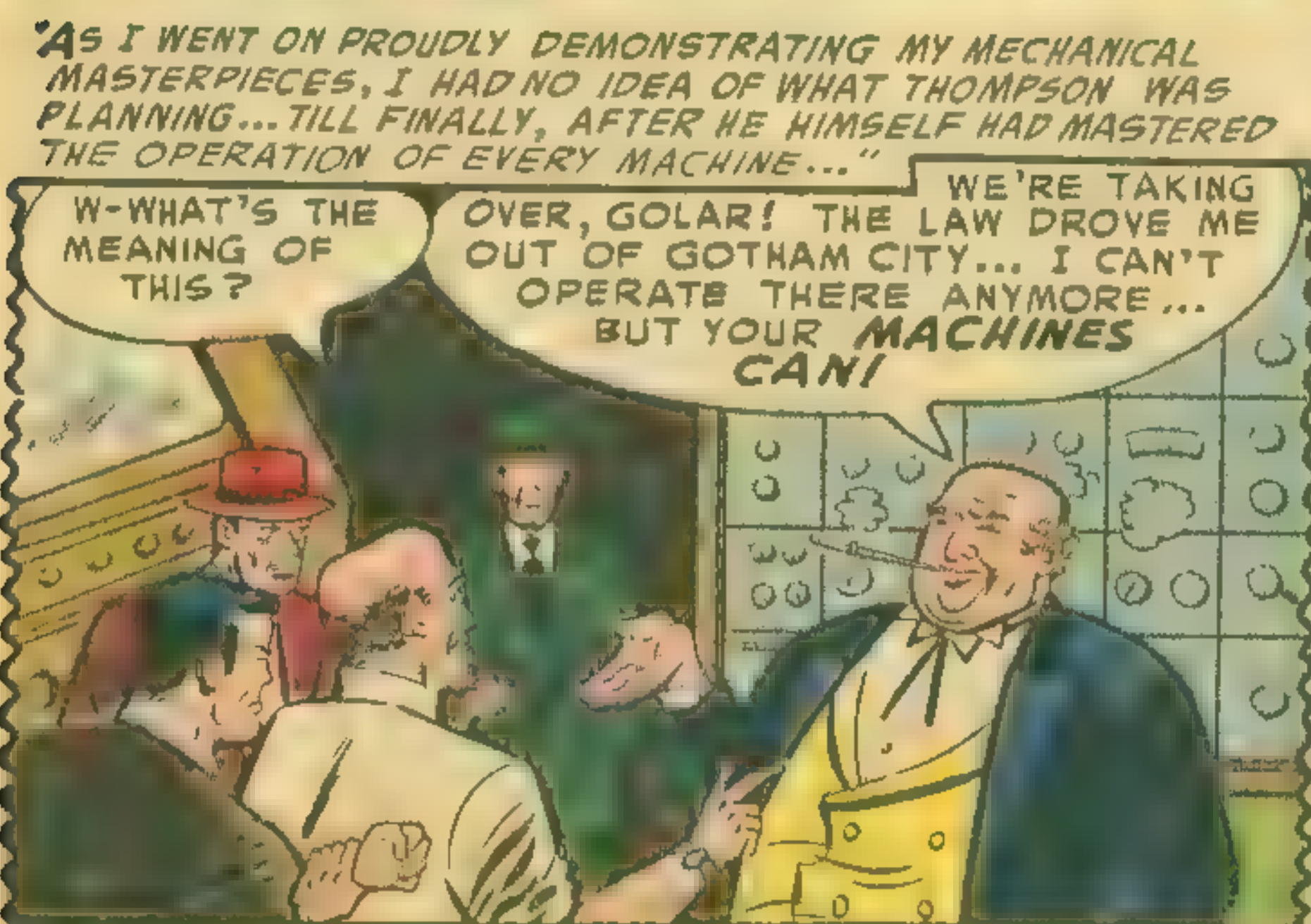
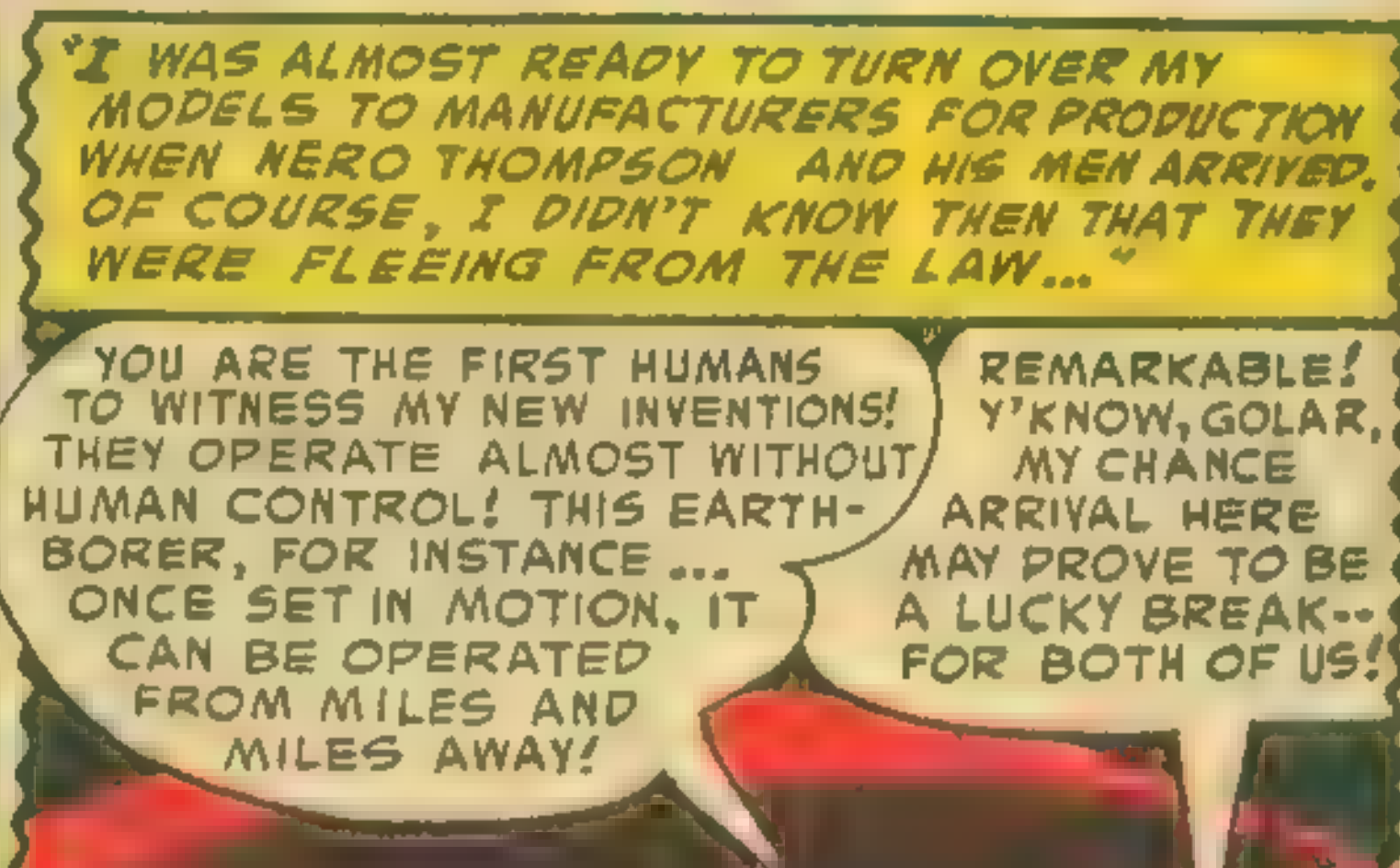
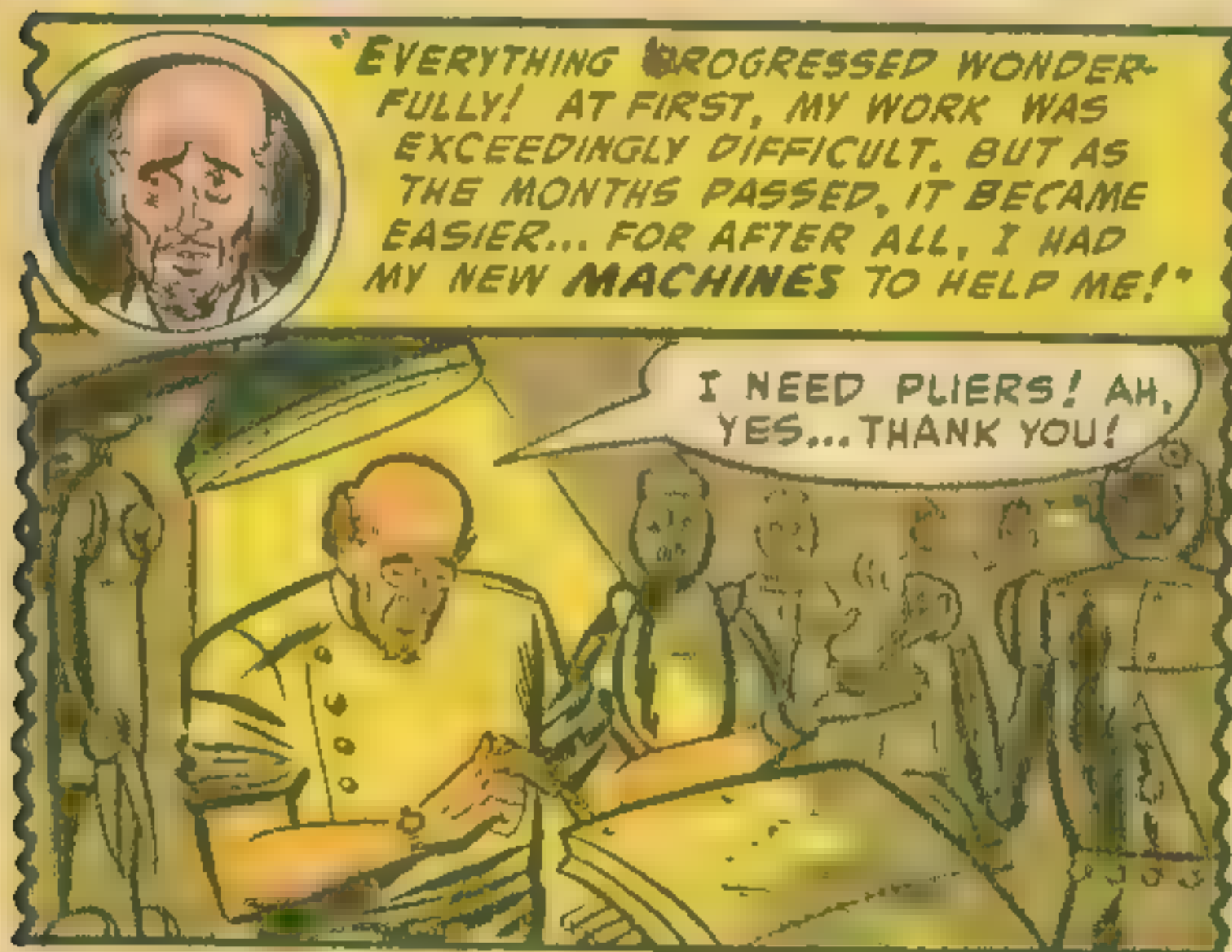
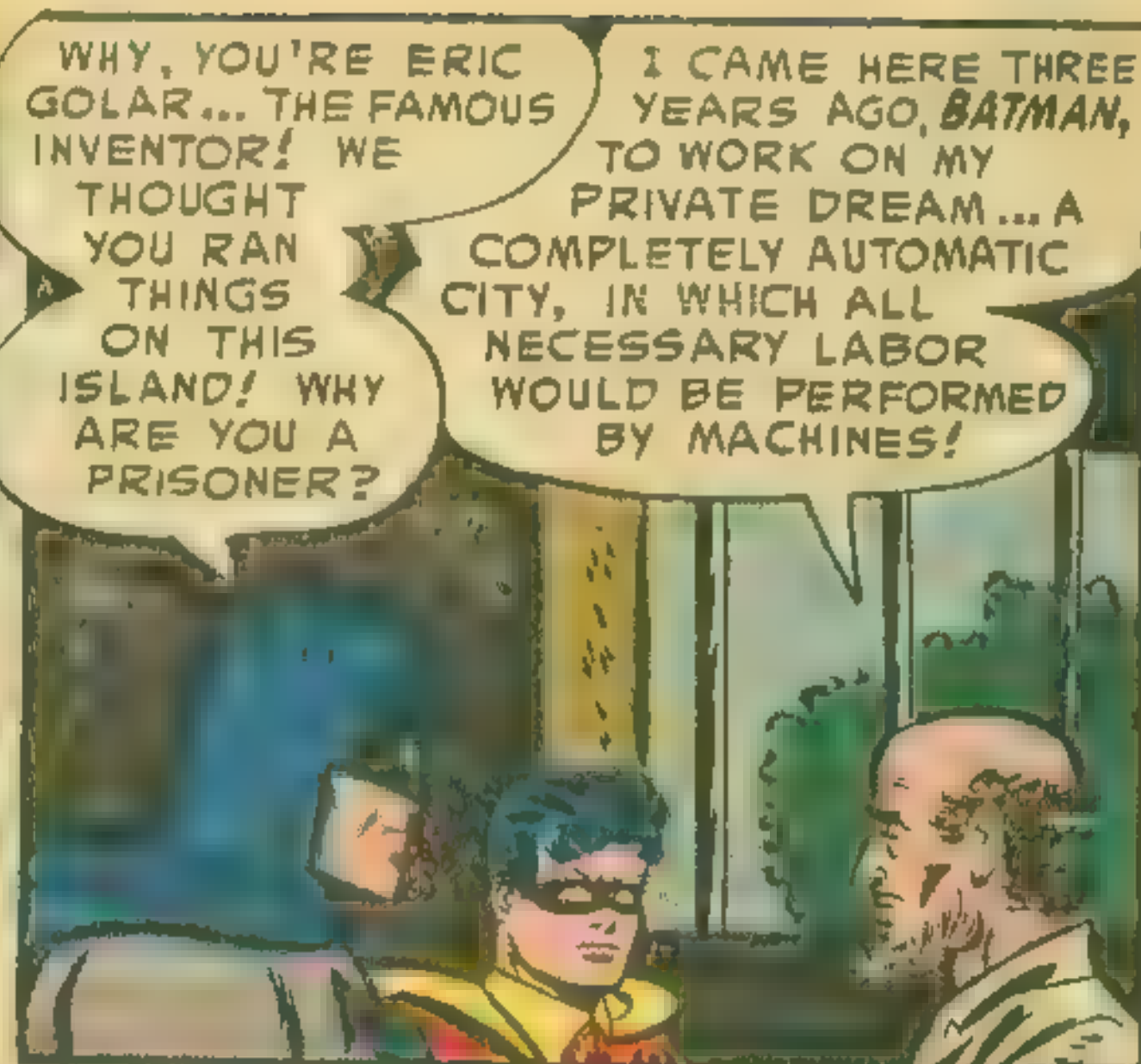
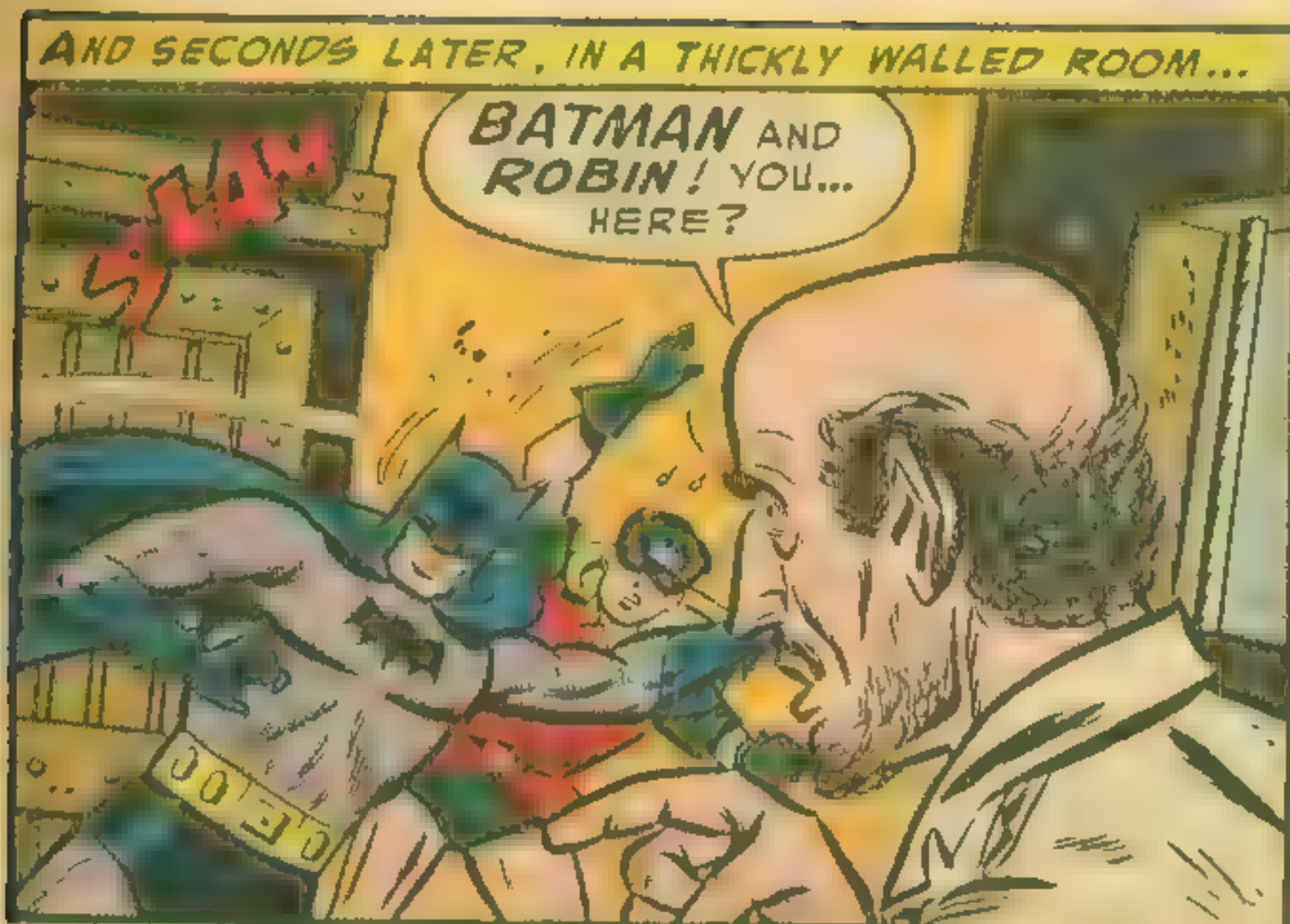
RIGHT THIS WAY, BATMAN!

AND MOMENTS LATER, AS THEY EMERGE INTO THE OPEN...

GOLLY, BATMAN... THIS IS INCREDIBLE! A WHOLE ISLAND RUN BY MACHINES! I DON'T SEE A SINGLE HUMAN ANYWHERE AROUND!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, ROBIN! THERE MUST BE A HUMAN BRAIN GUIDING THESE MINDLESS MECHANISMS. THERE JUST HAS TO BE!





TAKING A COIL OF ROPE FROM HIS UTILITY BELT, **BATMAN** FASHIONS A LOOP AND THEN CAREFULLY FEEDS IT THROUGH THE NARROW TRANOM ABOVE THE DOOR...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, **BATMAN**?

WHEN THAT MACHINE BROUGHT US HERE, I NOTICED THAT THE DOOR WAS SECURED BY A HEAVY CROSSBAR FROM THE OUTSIDE! IF I CAN LOOP THE END OF ROPE AROUND THE CROSSBAR, I MAY BE ABLE TO LIFT IT!

UNERRING CONTROL, ENDLESS PATIENCE ARE NEEDED, BUT AT LAST AFTER MANY FAILURES...

I'VE GOT IT!

AND AN INSTANT LATER, TWIN CANNONBALLS OF VENGEANCE ERUPT INTO THE MAIN ROOM BELOW!

EEEYOW! **BATMAN'S** FREE!

GLUG!

NEXT STOP...THE CENTRAL CONTROL STATION! THAT'S WHERE WE'LL FIND NERO THOMPSON AND THE REST OF HIS MEN!

WAIT... L-LOOK!

NERO THOMPSON MUST HAVE ALREADY SEEN US --- AND SENT MY OWN INVENTION TO CAPTURE US!

I'M NOT GOING THROUGH THAT AGAIN! HELP ME UNCAP THIS HYDRANT, **ROBIN**!

ABRUPTLY, THE GROTESQUE MACHINE MEETS WITH A GUSHING SHOWER OF WATER FROM THE OPEN HYDRANT... BUT STILL IT MOVES FORWARD...

THE FORCE OF THE SPRAY ISN'T ENOUGH TO STOP IT!

I DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO! I'M DEPENDING ON SOMETHING ELSE!

AND JUST AS THE MIGHTY ARMS MOVE TOWARD THE EMBATTLED TRIO...

I KNEW SUCH AN INTRICATE MECHANICAL CREATION NEEDS PERFECT COORDINATION IN ITS CENTRAL WIRING SYSTEM! THE WATER SPRAY DAMPENED VITAL CONNECTIONS... AND RENDERED IT USELESS!

WHY...IT'S SUDDENLY GONE OUT OF COMMISSION! IT CAN'T MOVE, **BATMAN**!

MOMENTS AFTERWARD, IN THE CENTRAL CONTROL STATION...

THE GAME'S UP! MY MEN CAN'T STOP THEM! BUT THE DELAY MAY ENABLE ME TO ESCAPE!



I'M TAKING YOU BACK WITH ME... TO GOTHAM CITY!



THIS SKY SLED, WHICH GOLAR MEANT FOR AERIAL DELIVERIES, IS JUST WHAT I NEED!

YOU'RE TOO LATE, NERO!



REELING FROM BATMAN'S BLOW, THE GANG CHIEF UNWITTINGLY SLAMS INTO THE GEAR OF THE SKY SLED, AND...

HEY! WE'RE TAKING OFF!



WHILE BACK IN THE CONTROL STATION...

THE SKY SLED IS RUNNING WILD--- WITH **BATMAN** IN IT! USE THE CONTROLS TO BRING IT BACK!



I---I CAN'T!

DURING YOUR BATTLE HERE, A STRAY BULLET SMASHED THE CONTROL PANEL FOR THE SKY SLED! I---I CAN'T GUIDE IT AT ALL!

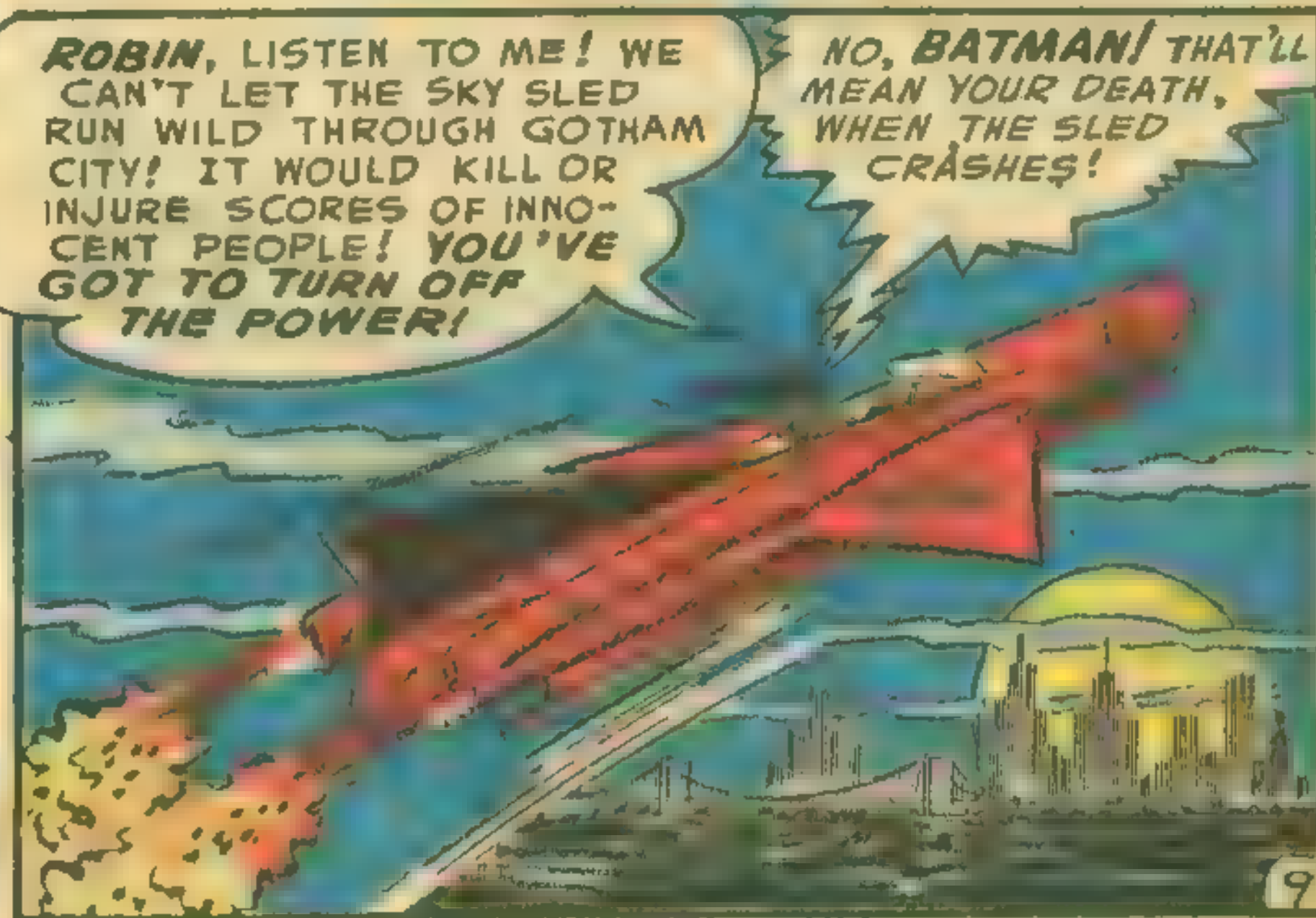
FRANTICALLY, THE **BOY WONDER** SIGNALS **BATMAN** ON THEIR BELT RADIO...

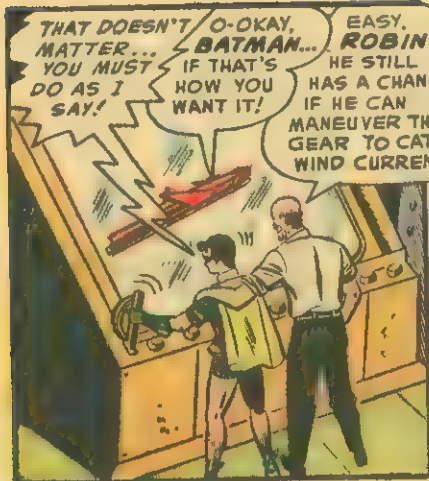


BATMAN! YOU'RE IN TROUBLE! WE CAN'T BRING BACK THE SKY-SLED! IT'S HEADING STRAIGHT FOR GOTHAM CITY... AT SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR!

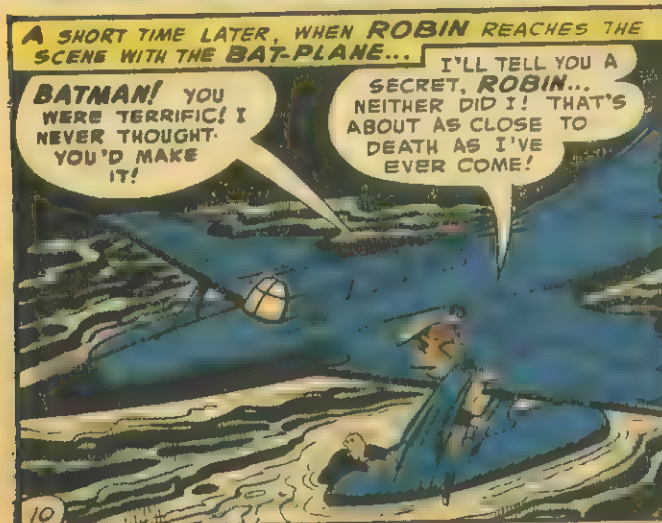
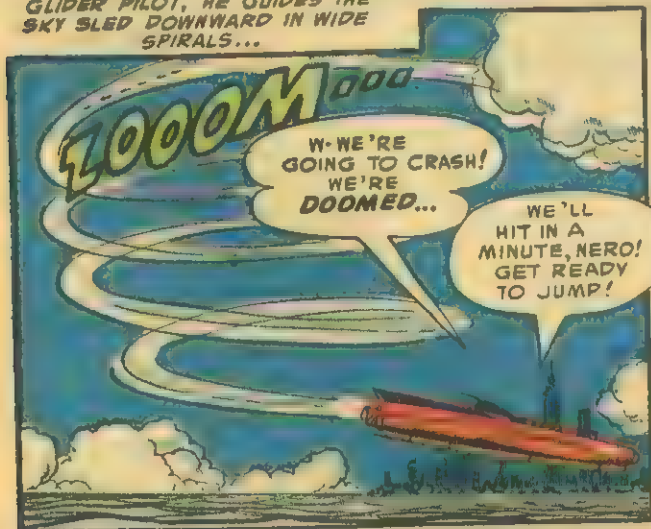
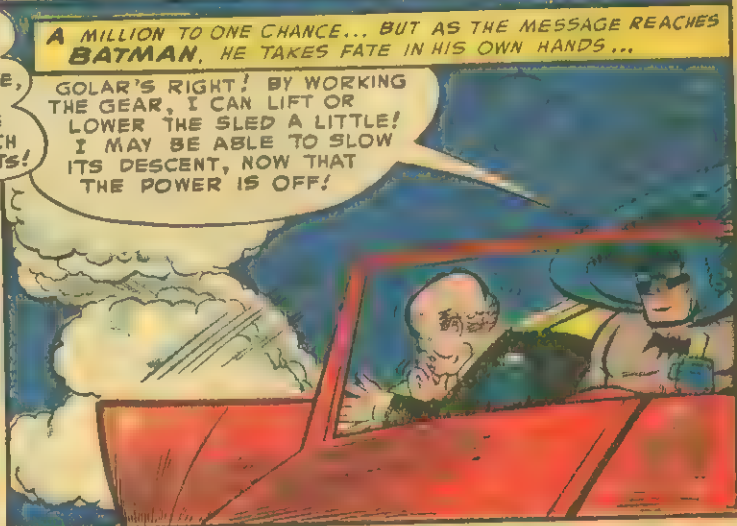
ROBIN, LISTEN TO ME! WE CAN'T LET THE SKY SLED RUN WILD THROUGH GOTHAM CITY! IT WOULD KILL OR INJURE SCORES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE! YOU'VE GOT TO TURN OFF THE POWER!

NO, BATMAN! THAT'LL MEAN YOUR DEATH, WHEN THE SLED CRASHES!

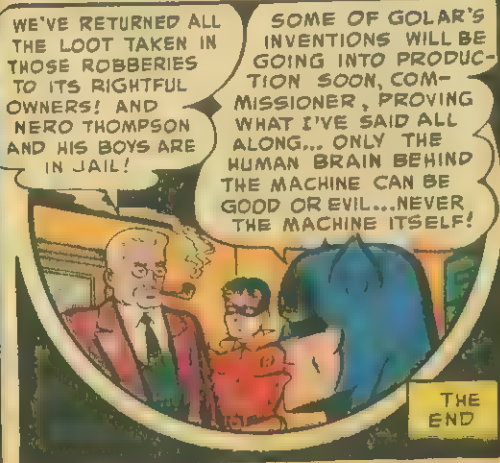




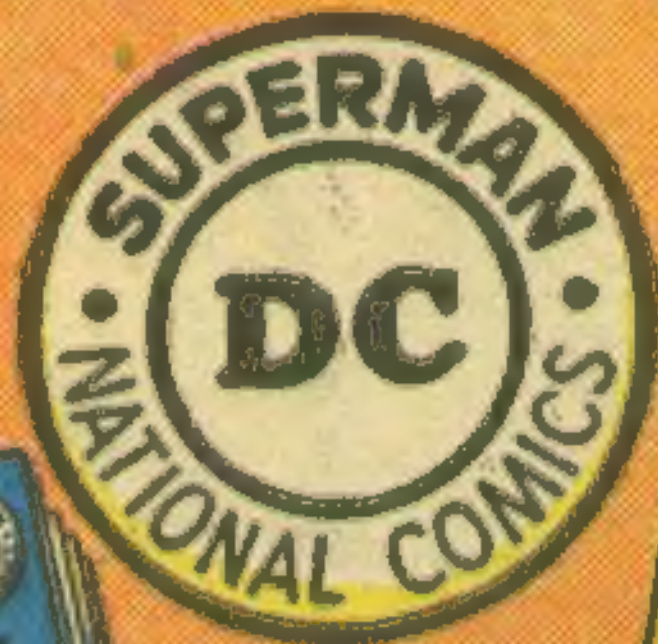
WORKING AS SKILLFULLY AS A GLIDER PILOT, HE GUIDES THE SKY SLED DOWNWARD IN WIDE SPIRALS...



AND SO, THE FOLLOWING DAY, BACK IN GOTHAM CITY...



THE LINE OF STARS



THE FAMOUS DC SYMBOL
ON THE COVER OF **ANY**
COMICS MAGAZINE IS **YOUR**
GUARANTEE OF THE **BEST**
READING IN COMICS



**"Hey YOU SKINNY
You look like
SOMETHING
THE CAT
DRAGGED IN!"**

the boys yelled as I dragged myself into the gym, says Jowett Pupil, Gleason R. Cleveland. Then I gained 70 lbs. and made the football team.

CLEVELAND
BEFORE
90 lbs.
Skeleton

CLEVELAND
AFTER JOWETT
TRAINING
160 lbs. of
Muscle

Now wouldn't You
Like To Have A New
Body Like Mine? I added

7 inches to my CHEST
3 1/2 inches to each ARM

and to the rest of my
body in proportion as
you can.

Before \$1 price goes back
YOUR LAST CHANCE

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ALL'S FREE!**

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designed to
build the
building
block of
the body"
- Dr. J. J. Kelly
Physical
Director

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Dear George: Please mail to me FREE Jowett's Photo Book of Strong Men and a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN Building Courses. 1. How to Build a Mighty Chest. 2. How to Build a Mighty Arm. 3. How to Build a Mighty Grip. 4. How to Build a Mighty Back. 5. How to Build Mighty Legs-Now all in One Package "How to become a Mighty HE-MAN." ENCLOSED Find 10c for POSTAGE AND HANDLING fee C.O.D.

Come on, PAL, NOW YOU ^{do} as I did
in 10 EASY MINUTES of FUN a day
Get a NEW HE-MAN BODY
For Your OLD SKELETON FRAME!

**I GAINED 60 LBS.
of SHAPELY
MIGHTY MUSCLES!**

Mail the "ALL-FREE" coupon
get this "AMAZING
"SECRETS" Photo Book
while you can.

FREE!

**AMAZING SECRETS
How to WIN
MUSCLES like IRON
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World's Great
EXPERT Tells
You How YOU
Can BECOME
An All-Around
HE-MAN in
10 MINUTES of
FUN A DAY
IN YOUR HOME.**

FREE

while
they
last

This Book
will also show You
HOW YOU CAN WIN

\$100.00 and A BIG 15" tall

SILVER TROPHY (Your Name On It)
as I have just done.

**You'll LOOK like A Real HE-MAN!
WIN WOMEN AND MEN FRIENDS**

**You'll FEEL like A Real HE-MAN!
Full of New Strength and Self-Confidence**

**You'll ACT like A Real HE-MAN!
Win in Sports! Win Promotion, Praise, Popularity.
By. Make More Money.**

Let's go, young fellow, Now YOU give me

10 PLEASANT MINUTES A DAY IN YOUR HOME
like SLIM JOHN SILL DID and I'll give YOU a New
HE-MAN BODY as I gave MANY Thousands like You

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are. I'll make you OVER
by the SAME method I turned myself from a weak to the
strongest of the strong. Why can't I do for you what I did for MANY
THOUSANDS of skinny fellows like You?

**Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES
Gain Pounds, INCHES FAST!**

YES! You'll see INCHES of MIGHTY
MUSCLE added to your ARMS and
CHEST. Your BACK and SHOULDERS
broadened. From head to heels, you'll
gain SIZE, POWER, SPEED. You'll be
A WINNER in EVERYTHING you tackle.

Like John
BECOME A
MOVIE STAR
HE-MAN

ONLY MY S-WAY
PROGRESSIVE POWER
GIVES YOU A-WAY
FAST TO YOU
SAVE YEARS
AND DOLLARS

GEORGE
J. JOWETT
"Champion of
Champion"
A strong Winner
Perfect
Man Control



Mail Coupon in Time for FREE offer and PRIZES!

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—Red Ryder

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DEFENDER REPEATER

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Buy Approved Daisy Bulls Eye BBs in new five and ten cent tubes or in the "most BBs for your money" 5¢ Roll-Tite Pouch!

GET MORE FUN FOR YOUR MONEY WITH A DAISY—BUY MY SWEET-SHOOTIN' COWBOY CARBINE NOW!!

—Red Ryder

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ing around helplessly, you find STRANGE TRACKS IN THE SAND! You follow the path. Suddenly your eyes widen and your skin crawls, as you find yourself face-to-face with...

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By Arthur C. Clarke

Author of *EXPLORATION OF SPACE* and *INTERPLANETARY FLIGHT*



SANDS OF MARS
(See description above.)

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Please rush me the 3 books I have checked below, as my gift books and first selection. You will bill me only \$1 (plus few cents shipping charges) for all three, and enroll me as a member of the Science-Fiction Book Club. Every month send me the Club's free bulletin, "Things to Come," so that I may decide whether or not I wish to receive the coming monthly selection described therein. For each book I accept, I will pay only \$1 plus a few cents shipping charge. I do not have to take a book every month (only four during each year I am a member)—and I may resign at any time after accepting four selections.

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| ☐ ANTHOLOGY OF SCIENCE-FICTION | ☐ OMNIBUS OF SCIENCE-FICTION |
| ☐ DOUBLE JEOPARDY | ☐ THE PUPPET MASTERS |
| ☐ THE MIXED MEN | ☐ SANDS OF MARS |

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NO Dues or Complicated Rules
Each month the Board of Editors

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